

Carbon monoxide ambient level. The average concentration of carbon monoxide detected in an air course containing carbon monoxide sensors. This average is representative of the composition of the mine atmosphere during a non-fire condition.

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Point feeding. The process of providing additional intake air to the belt air course from another intake air course through a regulator.

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3. Revise § 75.350 to read as follows:

§ 75.350 Belt air course ventilation.

(a) The belt air course must not be used as a return air course; and except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the belt air course must not be used to provide air to working sections or to areas where mechanized mining equipment is being installed or removed. The belt air course must be separated with permanent ventilation controls from return air courses and from other intake air courses except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) Air from a belt air course may be used to ventilate a working section or an area where mechanized mining equipment is being installed or removed, provided the following requirements are met:

(1) The belt entry must be equipped with an AMS installed, operated, examined, and maintained as specified in § 75.351.

(2) All miners, including newly hired miners must be trained annually in the basic operating principles of the AMS, including the actions required in the event of activation of a system alarm. This training may be conducted as part of a miner's 30 CFR part 48 new miner training (§ 48.5), experienced miner training (§ 48.6), or annual refresher training (§ 48.8).

(3) The average concentration of respirable dust in the belt air course (the intake air course) must be maintained at or below 1.0 mg/m³. A permanent designated area (DA) for dust measurements must be established at a point no greater than 50 feet upwind from the section loading point in the belt entry when the belt air flows over the loading point or no greater than 50 feet upwind from the point where belt air is mixed with air from another intake air course near the loading point. The DA must be specified and approved in the ventilation plan.

(4) The primary escapeway must be monitored for carbon monoxide or smoke as specified in § 75.351(f).

(5) The section must be developed with three or more entries.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 75.380(g), additional intake air may be added to the belt air course through a point-feed regulator. The location and use of point feeds must be approved in the mine ventilation plan. If the air through the point feed enters a belt air course which is used to ventilate a working section or an area where mechanized mining equipment is being installed or removed, the following conditions must be met:

(1) The air current that will pass through the point-feed regulator must be monitored for carbon monoxide or smoke at a point within 50 feet upwind of the point-feed regulator;

(2) The air in the belt air course must be monitored for carbon monoxide or smoke upwind of the point-feed regulator. This sensor must be in the belt air course within 50 feet of the mixing point where air flowing through the point-feed regulator mixes with the belt air;

(3) The point-feed regulator must be provided with a means to close the regulator from either air course without requiring a person to enter the air stream passing through the point-feed regulator;

(4) A minimum air velocity of 300 feet per minute must be maintained through the point-feed regulator.

(5) The location of a point-feed regulator(s) must be approved in the mine ventilation plan and the location(s) shown on the mine ventilation map; and

(6) An AMS must be installed, operated, examined, and maintained as specified in § 75.351.

4. Revise § 75.351, to read as follows:

§ 75.351 Atmospheric monitoring systems.

(a) *AMS operation.* Whenever personnel are underground and an AMS is being used to fulfill the requirements of §§ 75.323(d)(1)(ii), 75.340(a)(1)(ii), 75.340(a)(2)(ii), 75.350(b), 75.350(c), or 75.362(f), the AMS must be operating and a designated AMS operator must be on duty at a location on the surface of the mine where signals from the AMS can be seen and heard and the operator can promptly respond to these signals. However, for extended idle periods exceeding 24 hours, when the belt is not operating, the requirements of §§ 75.350(b) and 75.350(c) will not apply after the initial 24 hour idle period. All provisions of this section will become applicable one hour prior to belt start-up following this idle period.

(b) *Designated surface location and AMS operator.* When an AMS is used to comply with §§ 75.323(d)(1)(ii), 75.340(a)(1)(ii), 75.340(a)(2)(ii),

75.350(b), 75.350(c), or 75.362(f), the following requirements apply:

(1) The mine operator must designate a surface location at the mine or at another location approved by the district manager where signals from the AMS will be received and two-way voice communication is maintained with each working section, areas where mechanized equipment is being installed or removed, and other areas designated in the approved program of instruction (§ 75.1502).

(2) The mine operator must designate an AMS operator to monitor the AMS signals and be at a location on the mine surface where the AMS operator can promptly respond to all signals from the AMS.

(3) A map or schematic must be provided at the designated surface location and updated daily that shows the locations and type of AMS sensor at each location and the intended air flow direction at these locations.

(4) The names of the designated AMS operators, appropriate personnel, and responsible persons referred to in § 75.352, and the method to contact these persons must be provided at the designated surface location.

(c) *Minimum operating requirements.* AMSs used to comply with §§ 75.323(d)(1)(ii), 75.340(a)(1)(ii), 75.340(a)(2)(ii), 75.350(b), 75.350(c), or 75.362(f) must:

(1) Automatically provide a signal that can be seen or heard by the AMS operator at the designated surface location for any interruption of circuit continuity and any electrical malfunction of the system.

(2) Automatically provide an alert signal that can be seen or heard by the AMS operator at the designated surface location and is distinguishable from alarm signals, when the carbon monoxide concentration or methane concentration at any sensor reaches the alert level as specified in paragraph (i) of this section.

(3) Automatically provide signals that can be seen and heard by the AMS operator at the designated surface location when the carbon monoxide, smoke, or methane concentration at any sensor reaches the alarm level as specified in paragraph (i) of this section.

(4) Automatically provide visual and audible alarm signals at all affected working sections and at all affected areas where mechanized equipment is being installed or removed when the carbon monoxide, smoke, or methane concentration at any sensor reaches the alarm level as specified in paragraph (i) of this section. The signals must be capable of being seen and heard by miners working at these locations.