The Technical Advisory Committee on Diesel-Powered Equipment (TAC) held a regular meeting on April 8 in the Equipment Approvals Meeting Room at the Fayette County Health Center in Uniontown. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m.

Attendance:

Members Present:

    Ron Bowersox
    Paul Borchick

Others Present:

    Mike Gais, Bucyrus
    Gene Davis, Rosebud Mining
    Mike McCaffrey, DEP, BMS
    William Bookshar, DEP, BMS
    Alan Martin, DEP, BMS
    Dennis Walker, DEP, BMS
    Cathy Dunn, DEP, BMS

Minutes of the January 15, 2009 meeting were distributed and reviewed. TAC members Ron Bowersox and Paul Borchick approved the minutes with no changes.

Old Business:

Johnson Industries Model SS Rubber Tire Mantrip recommendation: On November 17, 2008, the TAC recommended temporary approval of the above equipment, and the 90 day test period began on December 9, 2008 with DEP approval. On February 26, 2009, the TAC and DEP traveled to Tom’s Run Mine to do the follow up evaluation of the Model SS Tire Mantrip upon completion of the test period. On March 23, 2009, the TAC recommended final approval for the mantrip that included the additional provisions set forth in the November 17, 2008 temporary approval recommendation.

Bailey 1-Man Diesel Fuel Transfer Procedure – DEP approval status: The TAC and representatives from BMS traveled to Bailey Mine on January 13, 2009 to evaluate Bailey’s 1-Man Diesel Fuel Transfer System. A 30-day trial period began on January 13 and ends February 12. On March 9, the TAC traveled to Bailey Mine to review the system. The TAC recommended final approval on April 1, 2009 for this site specific fuel transfer system. The TAC believes that this specific system, with its redundant safety features, provides at least the same level of protection to the miners as the current 2 person manual operated system.
Brookville Equipment Corporation Model 18M116D Locomotive: On December 23, 2008, the TAC traveled to Brookville to evaluate this piece of equipment when it became available. The TAC recommended approval of the equipment and alternate 90 second test procedure in a letter to the Director dated January 9, 2009.

**New Business:**

Michael McCaffrey expressed concerns from a Bureau inspector regarding the need for clean out ports in enclosed compartments to reduce the possibility of accumulations of combustible material in these areas, some of which are hard to access. A letter to industry may be sent from DEP expressing concerns on this matter for future designs of diesel equipment. The TAC supports this recommendation.

Diesel transportation issues were discussed.

Gene Davis requested a direct link to TAC Recommendations for diesel equipment be placed on the Bureau website. The TAC recognizes that this website is an important resource for equipment manufacturers, labor and industry to stay updated on TAC recommendations. The TAC requests the website be updated in a timely manner.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m. The next meeting will be July 8, 2009.