



## BUREAU OF MINE SAFETY

### GUIDELINES FOR PLANS FOR OPENING A NEW INDUSTRIAL MINERALS UNDERGROUND MINE

Procure all necessary permits from the appropriate District Mining Office, Air Quality, local municipality, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, etc.

1. Forward mine opening plan and Industrial Minerals Plan Routing Slip to your Mine Inspector for review and approval from the Director of Bureau of Mine Safety.

At a minimum plan should include:

- a) Detailed portal area layout in plan view displaying portal openings, pit access, proposed stationary equipment, and including topography (2' contours) at a scale of 1"= 50'.
  - b) Portal canopy construction – include drawings and description of construction materials.
  - c) Number of portal entries. Include height, width, distance to first crosscut and shot design.
  - d) Detailed explanation of what type mining methods (same as submitted in Module 15.5).
  - e) Ventilation plan.
  - f) Plan for roof control – including procedures outlining:
    1. Test hole drilling (location and depth)
    2. Scratch testing or bore scoping of test holes
    3. Support (bolting, roof props, etc.) plan
  - g) Plan for mine drainage. (same as Module 15.5)
  - h) Emergency Response Plan (same as submitted to MSHA) and include provision for Mine Families First Act.
  - i) MSHA ID number if known.
  - j) Mine electrical plan. New electrical substations must meet PA guidelines and be approved.
  - k) List of equipment to be used underground. (same as Module 15.5 and Ventilation Plan).
  - l) Type of communications system.
  - m) Safety zones for gas wells or adjacent mining.
  - n) Mine Operator's Questionnaire form must be submitted prior to start of mining.
  - o) Include NIOSH "S-Pillar" design program results with W/H ratios.
  - p) Include two underground mining maps w/permit outline at 1:200 Scale on PDF. Map shall include location, dimension and depth of any wells, boreholes, or shafts within the underground permit area.
2. Other consideration should be given to the following:
    - a) A Pennsylvania certified mine foreman must be present for each shift while employees are underground.
    - b) All blasting must be done by a Pennsylvania licensed blaster.
    - c) Explosive magazines must be licensed and approved.
    - d) Prior to placing explosive magazines underground, magazines and location must be approved by Bureau of Mine Safety.
    - e) Future ventilation of mine in 5 years.
    - f) Copies of PA Mining, Explosive and ATF licenses.

Contact Scott R. Schilling Supervisor, Industrial Minerals, Bureau of Mine Safety, (570-899-8041) or visit our website at <http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/minesafety> regarding approvals of mine equipment and electrical systems.