The Technical Advisory Committee on Diesel-Powered Equipment (TAC) held a regular meeting on October 10 in the Mine Safety Training Room at the Fayette County Health Center in Uniontown. The meeting began at 10:15 a.m.

Attendance:

Members Present:
Ron Bowersox
Paul Borchick

Others Present:
Mike Gais, DBT
Jim Cole, DBT
Mike McCaffrey, DEP, BMS
Joseph Sbaffoni, DEP, BMS
Allison D. Gaida, DEP, BMS

Minutes of the July 11, 2007, meeting were distributed and reviewed. TAC members Ron Bowersox and Paul Borchick approved the minutes with no changes.

Old Business:

Diesel-Powered Equipment in Shaft and Slope Construction Operations: TAC recommendations and final draft of the Conditions of Use were given to the Bureau in an April 25, 2007, letter. Bill Bookshar provided changes to the TAC members for their review where clarification was needed. The TAC has not completed their involvement in this issue. These conditions of use will be approved at the next TAC meeting.

Brookville Model 20T193D 20-Ton Locomotive: The TAC conducted an investigation on the locomotive and sent recommendation to the DEP in a September 6, 2007, letter. During inspection of the unit, issues with surface temperatures above 302° F on specific areas of the exhaust system arose. These areas were not coated with permanent coating, and availability on the permanent coated part was 10-12 weeks. On August 31, the mine requested tentative approve of the locomotive for a longwall move at the Emerald Mine. DEP required a more permanent type coating, but would accept the jacket wrap to comply with the 302-degree temperature requirement on a temporary basis. DEP granted tentative approval to Brookville on September 11 with the TAC’s stipulations. Final approval of the engine and emission control system and alternate test procedure cannot be granted until the permanent coated parts are installed and tested. The TAC and DEP will be notified when these parts are installed to do their final inspection.
DBT 488 Scoop: No action has been taken on the April 6, 2006, original requested from DBT on the 488D outby diesel scoop. TAC had received a letter on July 12, 2006, to inspect the equipment. However, the exhaust system did not meet the Bureau’s directive for flame arrestors. Nothing more was done at that point. DBT now has a scoop with the same engine and exhaust treatment package to be used at the Rosebud Mine. TAC will inspect this equipment and provide recommendations to the Bureau.

Brookville Model 18M100D Personnel Carrier: The TAC was notified by DEP on July 26, 2007, to inspect and provide a recommendation of this personnel carrier. The unit is not available at this time, but should be within the next two weeks.

TAC Inspection Requests – The TAC wanted to note that manufacturers should do a thorough pre-inspection prior to the TAC’s inspection so that obvious issues can be addressed and resolved beforehand. An example of this is surface temperature.

Brookville Temperature Probe Accuracy – The TAC will send recommendation to DEP on recent findings concerning the accuracy of the readings on the operator’s exhaust gas temperature gage. The difference in the actual exhaust gas temperature versus the reading on the gage was due to a bushing used on the temperature probe that insulated the probe from the exhaust gas. The TAC will give recommendations to the DEP on this matter.

New Business:

2008 Meeting Dates: Meetings will be held as follows in the Fayette County Health Center in Uniontown at 10 a.m.

- January 9, 2008
- April 9, 2008
- July 9, 2008
- October 8, 2008

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m. The next meeting will be held on January 9, 2008.