

**MINUTES**  
**Technical Advisory Committee on Diesel-Powered Equipment**  
**Fayette County Health Center**  
**January 8, 2014**

The Technical Advisory Committee on Diesel-Powered Equipment (TAC) held a regular meeting on January 8, 2014, in the Front Conference Room at the Fayette County Health Center in Uniontown. The meeting began at 10:05 a.m.

Attendance:

Members Present:

Ron Bowersox  
Paul Borchick

Others Present:

Ron Vlassich, Rosebud Mining  
Gene Davis, Rosebud Mining  
David Varney, AMFIRE  
Guy Jones, Emerald Coal Resources, LP  
Bob Bohach, Alpha PA Services  
Jeffry Kerch, DEP BMS  
Arthur Brower, DEP BMS  
John Antoon, DEP, BMS  
Dennis Coffey, DEP, BMS  
Vincent Little, DEP, BMS  
Cathy Dunn, DEP, BMS

Minutes of the October 9, 2013, meeting were distributed and reviewed. TAC members Ron Bowersox and Paul Borchick approved the minutes with no changes.

Old Business:

Rhomas Model DP50 Hydraulic Power Pack: On July 16, 2013, Rhomas sent a letter to DEP requesting that the TAC inspect this piece of equipment. On October 21<sup>st</sup>, the TAC and DEP travelled to Wilson Works in Morgantown, WV to do their inspection. On October 29, the TAC recommended temporary approval with stipulations. On December 6, 2013, the DEP issued a temporary approval letter for this equipment to Dana Mining of PA at their request. The TAC recommended final approval at the meeting on January 8, 2014.

Rhomas Model DP100 Hydraulic Power Pack: On August 19, 2013, Rhomas submitted a request to DEP for the TAC to inspect this piece of equipment. The DEP will check with Rhomas to see if there has been any progress made in getting this equipment ready for inspection. The TAC stated that they will make themselves available to inspect the equipment when it is ready.

Evaluation of Section 412(b): At the October 9, 2013 meeting, Ron Vlassich also asked if it is necessary to have a trained mechanic change an air filter. Section 412(b) states that 'all miners' shall be trained in precautions for safe and healthful handling and disposal of diesel-powered equipment filters. The TAC agreed to investigate who can change what filters and what training is required. The

TAC gave their findings at the January 8 meeting, but it was pointed out by Gene Davis of Rosebud Mining that this topic had already been addressed in one of the TAC actions dated July 12, 2004. The TAC agreed to table their recommendation until the next TAC meeting to be able to review the previous TAC recommendation on this topic.

*New Business:*

The TAC requested that the electronic records on the DEP website be updated to include the latest actions and meeting minutes.

Gene Davis of Rosebud Mining proposed that the TAC create a written policy manual-type document on Chapter 4 of the Bituminous Mining Laws of Pennsylvania. All present agreed on the merits of having such a document readily available at the meetings to assist with discussions and avoid doing research on topics that have already been addressed in the past. A discussion ensued on the logistics of gathering information from those involved in composing the PA diesel law to assist the TAC with this project.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. The next meeting will be on April 9, 2014.