The Technical Advisory Committee on Diesel-Powered Equipment (TAC) held a regular meeting on April 13, 2016, in the Westmoreland Room at the DEP New Stanton District Office. The meeting began at 10 a.m.

Attendance:

Members Present:  
Ron Bowersox  
Paul Borchick

Others Present:  
Art Brower, DEP, BMS  
John Antoon, DEP, BMS  
Ron Vlassich, Rosebud Mining  
Gene Davis, Davis Training & Consulting  
Jim Barnish, Cumberland Mine  
Mark Crable, Royal Hydraulic  
Mark Gais, CB Mining  
Colvin Carson, DEP, BMS  
Chris Yeager, DEP, BMS  
Chas Washlack, DEP, BMS  
Vince Little, DEP, BMS  
Jim Ross, DEP, BMS  
Jeff Kerch, DEP, BMS  
Rich Wagner, DEP, BMS

Minutes of the January 13, 2016, meeting were distributed and reviewed. TAC members Ron Bowersox and Paul Borchick approved the minutes with no changes.

Old Business:

Rosebud Exhaust System Alternative Surface Temperature Control:  
It was previously decided that this would be a Bureau-wide policy change rather than mine specific. The basic scope of the change is allowing use of fire-blanket wraps in lieu of, or in conjunction with, polyamide thermal coating. The TAC Members recommended approval.  
Initial Request July 8, 2015  
Reviewed by TAC January 20, 2016, at Royal Hydraulics

A discussion then ensued. The following items will be addressed in a revised letter from the Diesel TAC Committee:

- It will be clarified that a combination of wraps and/or polyamide will be acceptable.
- It will be clarified that an OEM approved method to secure the wraps will be acceptable.
- This method will consist of stainless steel spring-clamps or tie-wire.
It was noted that special attention must be paid to joints where wrap over-lap polyamide coating.

They must be inspected during the pre-op and the 100-hour testing.

The wraps should comply with the following conditions:
- Meet or exceed the performance of the polyamide coating
- Construction shall minimize seams
- Marked with a part number
- A record of warps used on equipment shall be kept in the machines O & M/Parts Manual

It was noted that some advantages of the warps are:
- Lower surface temperature
- Ease of maintenance
- Less incidental/insignificant exposed areas

Securing Battery Connections on Diesel Start up Batteries:
It was previously decided that this would be a Bureau-wide policy change rather than mine specific.
- Submitted July 28, 2015
- Discussed January 13, 2016, meeting
- Approved April 7, 2016, meeting

The Diesel TAC Members recommended approval and delivered their recommendation to Bureau Director Craig Carson. The summary was that a post type connection will be acceptable on diesel engine starting batteries.

New Business:
Gene Davis noted a typographical area in the Law:

Section 419. Exhaust gas monitoring and control.
   (a) Concentration.--In monitoring and controlling exhaust gases, the ambient concentration of exhaust gases in the mine atmosphere shall not exceed 35 parts per million for carbon monoxide and three parts per million for nitrogen dioxide. The concentration of these exhaust gases shall be measured at the equipment operator's or equipment attendant's position and by (error) the last piece of diesel-powered equipment operating in the same split of air. Measurements shall be made weekly or more often if necessary by a qualified individual and shall be conducted under the requirements of this section.

Should read “inby”. DEP Mine Safety staff will look into this further.

A clarification on diesel engine record retention was requested by Ron Vlassich (Rosebud Mining). It is required by law to keep records for one year. When an engine is replaced, the previous records are no longer relevant and the book will only reflect records from the date of the change.

Mr. Carson and Mr. Kerch clarified that the previous engine’s records do not need to be kept in the book, but must be retained and made available upon request.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

The next meeting will be at 10 a.m. on July 13, 2016, at the DEP New Stanton Office, Westmoreland Room.