

MSO Advisory Committee Meeting #2 – Sacramento

January 8, 2014

(The following is a review of the discussions transcribed from an audio recording)

Meeting called to order at approximately 9:05 AM by chairperson Steve Hart.

Division Opening Remarks

Reviewed the Sylmar Tunnel Explosion of June 21, 1971 where 17 workers died. State laws were changed and the present Mining and Tunneling Unit was created.

John Leahy gave a brief review of what has happened in the intervening 3 weeks and explained that the gray sections have been agreed to.

Reviewed the previously-discussed sections, including the term appurtenant. Committee wants to use the more legal definition.

Discussed the merits of natural ventilation vs mechanical ventilation vs reversibility of the air flow in an emergency vs the fact that MSHA allows natural ventilation. The underground portion of the committee does not want to improve the mine ventilation standard at this time. Will table this discussion and Hart will talk to the underground contingent by telephone to attempt to reach common ground.

Agreed to replace barricade with barrier and to delete the term barricade.

Discussed “competent person” and how the Division is trying to clarify this term.

Agreed to change the definition of a material hoist & eliminate the scraper language.

Removed the word “fan” from the definition of “Main Ventilation System”.

Agreed to language for the old “Refuge Station”.

Agreed to table the definition of “Refuge Chamber”, and discussed possible future Advisory Committee action to bring in more standardization to the refuge chamber concept.

Discussed issues surrounding notifications and whether E-Mails are legal means to make a legal notification. Steve to check.

Meeting adjourned at 4:02 PM.

Next meeting to be in Van Nuys on 1-30-14