

PROCEDURES

**§ 56.1000 Notification of commencement of operations and closing of mines.**

The owner, operator, or person in charge of any metal and nonmetal mine shall notify the nearest Mine Safety and Health Administration and Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health District Office before starting operations, of the approximate or actual date mine operation will commence. The notification shall include the mine name, location, the company name, mailing address, person in charge, and whether operations will be continuous or intermittent.

When any mine is closed, the person in charge shall notify the nearest sub-district office as provided above and indicate whether the closure is temporary or permanent.

[50 FR 4054, Jan. 29, 1985, as amended at 60 FR 33723, June 29, 1995; 60 FR 35695, July 11, 1995]

**Subpart B—Ground Control**

AUTHORITY: 30 U.S.C. 811

SOURCE: 51 FR 36197, Oct. 8, 1986, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 56.3000 Definitions.**

The following definitions apply in this subpart.

*Rock fixture.* Any tensioned or non-tensioned device or material inserted into the ground to strengthen or support the ground.

*Travelway.* A passage, walk, or way regularly used or designated for persons to go from one place to another.

MINING METHODS

**§ 56.3130 Wall, bank, and slope stability.**

Mining methods shall be used that will maintain wall, bank, and slope stability in places where persons work or travel in performing their assigned tasks. When benching is necessary, the width and height shall be based on the type of equipment used for cleaning of benches or for scaling of walls, banks, and slopes.

**§ 56.3131 Pit or quarry wall perimeter.**

In places where persons work or travel in performing their assigned tasks, loose or unconsolidated material shall be sloped to the angle of repose or stripped back for at least 10 feet from the top of the pit or quarry wall. Other conditions at or near the perimeter of the pit or quarry wall which create a fall-of-material hazard to persons shall be corrected.

SCALING AND SUPPORT

**§ 56.3200 Correction of hazardous conditions.**

Ground conditions that create a hazard to persons shall be taken down or supported before other work or travel is permitted in the affected area. Until corrective work is completed, the area shall be posted with a warning against entry and, when left unattended, a barrier shall be installed to impede unauthorized entry.

**§ 56.3201 Location for performing scaling.**

Scaling shall be performed from a location which will not expose persons to injury from falling material, or other protection from falling material shall be provided.

**§ 56.3202 Scaling tools.**

Where manual scaling is performed, a scaling bar shall be provided. This bar shall be of a length and design that will allow the removal of loose material without exposing the person performing this work to injury.

**§ 56.3203 Rock fixtures.**

(a) For rock bolts and accessories addressed in ASTM F432-95, "Standard Specification for Roof and Rock Bolts and Accessories," the mine operator shall—

(1) Obtain a manufacturer's certification that the material was manufactured and tested in accordance with the specifications of ASTM F432-95; and

(2) Make this certification available to an authorized representative of the Secretary and to the representative of miners.