U.S. Department of Labor

Office of Inspector General Washington, DC. 20210



October 29, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR: JEANNETTE J. GALANIS Acting Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health

Carolyn R. Hanty

FROM:

CAROLYN R. HANTZ Assistant Inspector General for Audit

SUBJECT:

Audit of COVID-19 Impact on MSHA's Mandatory Inspections

Please be advised the Office of Inspector General is initiating an audit to determine how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted MSHA's ability to complete mandatory safety and health inspections (E01).

We will contact your audit liaison to schedule a meeting to discuss the audit objective, scope and methodology. The work is expected to begin immediately after the meeting, and we would appreciate you notifying appropriate officials of our plans.

To facilitate the start of the audit, we would appreciate it if MSHA could start providing the items listed in the attached Document and Data Request immediately.

If you have questions, please contact Nicholas Christopher, Audit Director, at (312) 353-2176 or christopher.nicholas@oig.dol.gov.

Patricia W. Silvey, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations CC: Nancy M. Rooney, Administrator, Mine Safety and Health Enforcement Syed Hafeez, Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources Chantel Sollers, Audit Liaison, Program Evaluation and Information Resources

Please provide the following documents to Katie Mitomi, Auditor-in-Charge, at mitomi.kathleen@oig.dol.gov.

Item # Description

- 1. Copies of MSHA (National, Regional and District) policies, procedures and other guidance in effect from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2021 applicable to:
 - a. COVID-19 adjustments or other E01 inspection process changes
 - b. List of mine status codes and definitions
 - c. Criteria for assigning and changing mine statuses, including any business rules
 - d. Criteria for calculating the E01 inspection completion rate
 - e. E01 inspection reporting requirements
 - f. New mine registration and monitoring process
 - g. Mine Information Form (2000-209) and instructions sheet
- 2. Copies of any more recent versions or pending changes to the following MSHA guidance we already have (version date listed):
 - a. Program Policy Manual, Volume 1 if different than what's currently available on MSHA website
 - b. Supervisors' Handbooks, such as:
 - i. Mine Safety and Health Enforcement Supervisor's Handbook (AH20-III-1, December 2020)
 - ii. Coal Mine Safety and Health Supervisor's Handbook (AH14-III-4, January 2014)
 - iii. Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health Supervisors Handbook (AH09-III-1(1), June 2009)
 - c. MSHA Centralized Application System (MCAS) User Manual (MSIS User Manual) if different than what's currently available on MSHAnet website
 - d. MCAS/MSIS Data Dictionary, August 27, 2019
 - e. Inspection Application System (IAS) User Guide, June 09, 2021
- 3. Fiscal year reports that show:
 - a. Total number of coal mines (all statuses) since October 1, 2017 per MSHA district
 - b. Total number of metal/nonmetal mines (all statuses) since October 1, 2017 per MSHA district
- 4. Reports that show total number of inspectors per MSHA district per fiscal quarter since October 1, 2017

- 5. Regular Inspection Activity reports (e.g., PEIR recurring data reports) for each MSHA district per fiscal quarter since October 1, 2017 that show:
 - a. Number of required inspections
 - b. Number of total inspections
 - c. Number of inspections within requirements
 - d. Number of inspectors
- 6. Copies of accountability audits, internal reviews and evaluations issued since October 1, 2017 related to mine status classifications or changes, completion of E01 inspections, or COVID-19.
- 7. Copies of all National, Regions, and Districts organization charts

Please provide the following MCAS data table (no constraints).

Item # Description

1. MINES

Please provide the following MCAS data tables for Fiscal Years 2006 - 2021 to X.

- Item # Description
- 2. EVENTS (If possible, include total number of inspectors for each EVENT_SEQ_ID.)

Please provide the following MCAS data tables for Fiscal Years 2018 - 2021 to X.

- Item # Description
 - 3. MINE_STATUSES
 - 4. OFFICES
 - 5. P50_QTRLY_QUARTERLY_DATA
 - 6. P50_QTRLY_QUARTERLY_REPORTS
 - 7. TIME_REPORT_ACTIVITIES

Provide all code, logs, scripts and workflow diagrams used to query each MCAS data table listed above.