incorporated by reference and are available at MSHA, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 728, Arlington, VA 22203 and at all Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health District Offices.

12. Section 57.6133 is amended by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 57.6133 Powder chests.

(b) Detonators shall be kept in separate chests from explosives or blasting agents, unless separated by 4 inches of hardwood or equivalent. A compartment or container meeting the definition of a laminated partition may be used to separate detonators from explosives or blasting agents. When a laminated partition is used, the provisions of the IME Safety Library Publication No. 22 (May 1993) and the Generic Loading Guide for the IME-22 Container (October 1993) shall be followed. These publications are incorporated by reference and are available at MSHA, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 728, Arlington, VA 22203 and at all Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health District Offices.

13. Section 57.6201 is amended by revising paragraphs (a)(2) and (b)(2) to read as follows:

§ 57.6201 Separation of transported explosive material.

* * * * * * (a) * * *

- (2) Separated from explosives or blasting agents by 4 inches of hardwood or equivalent. The hardwood or equivalent shall be fastened to the vehicle or conveyance. A compartment or container meeting the definition of a laminated partition may be used to separate detonators from explosives or blasting agents. When a laminated partition is used, the provisions of the IME Safety Library Publication No. 22 (May 1993) and the Generic Loading Guide for the IME-22 Container (October 1993) shall be followed. These publications are incorporated by reference and are available at MSHA, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 728, Arlington, VA 22203 and at all Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health District Offices.
 - (b) * * *
- (2) Separated from explosives or blasting agents by 4 inches of hardwood or equivalent. The hardwood or equivalent shall be fastened to the

vehicle or conveyance. A compartment or container meeting the definition of a laminated partition may be used to separate detonators from explosives or blasting agents. When a laminated partition is used, the provisions of IME Safety Library Publication No. 22 (May 1993) and the Generic Loading Guide for the IME–22 Container (October 1993) shall be followed. These publications are incorporated by reference and are available at MSHA, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 728, Arlington, VA 22203 and at all Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health District Offices.

14. Section 57.6302 is revised to read as follows:

§ 57.6302 Separation of explosive material.

Explosives and blasting agents shall be kept separated from detonators until loading begins.

15. Section 57.6306 is revised to read as follows:

§ 57.6306 Loading, blasting, and security.

- (a) When explosive materials or initiating systems are brought to the blast site, the area shall be barricaded and posted, or flagged against unauthorized entry.
- (b) Vehicles and equipment shall not be driven over explosive material or initiating systems in a manner which could contact the material or system, or create other hazards.
- (c) Once loading begins, the only activities permitted within the blast site shall be those activities directly related to the blasting operation and the activities of surveying, stemming, sampling of geology, and reopening of holes provided that reasonable care is exercised. Haulage activity is permitted near the base of the highwall being loaded, provided no other haulage access exists.
- (d)(1) Loading and firing of a blast shall be performed without undue interruption or delay. If loading is interrupted or firing is delayed for any reason, the mine shall be attended to prevent unauthorized entry to the blast site. Underground areas are secure against unauthorized entry if entrance to the mine is through vertical shafts. Inclined shafts or adits are secure when locked at the surface.
- (2) During the approach and progress of an electrical storm—
- (i) Persons preventing unauthorized entry to a surface blast site shall

- withdraw from the blast area to a safe location; and
- (ii) Persons preventing unauthorized entry to an underground blast site involving an electrical blasting operation that is capable of being initiated by lightning shall withdraw from the blast area to a safe location.
- (e) In electric blasting prior to connecting to the power source, and in nonelectric blasting prior to attaching an initiating device, all persons shall leave the blast area except persons in a blasting shelter or other location that protects them from concussion (shock wave), flying material, and gases.
 - (f) Before firing a blast—
- (1) Ample warning shall be given to allow all persons to be evacuated;
- (2) Clear exit routes shall be provided for persons firing the round; and
- (3) All access routes to the blast area shall be guarded or barricaded to prevent the passage of persons or vehicles.
- (g) Work shall not be resumed in the blast area until a post-blast examination addressing potential blast-related hazards has been conducted by a person with the ability and experience to perform the examination.

§ 57.6313 [Removed]

- 16. Section 57.6313 is removed.
- 17. Section 57.6602 is amended by revising the introductory text to read as follows:

§ 57.6602 Static electricity dissipation during loading.

When explosive material is loaded pneumatically into a blasthole in a manner that generates static electricity—

18. Section 57.6905 is added to read as follows:

§ 57.6905 Explosive material protection and hang-up blasting.

- (a) Explosive material shall be protected from temperatures in excess of 150 °F.
- (b) Explosive material shall be protected from impact, except for tamping and dropping during loading.
- (c) Only detonating cord shall be used to initiate explosives placed in raises, chutes, and ore passes to free hang-ups.

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