

Mine Manager Statement to the Team

Welcome, my name is _____, I'm the mine manager here at Volunteer Salt Mine. You are located in the first line of crosscuts where the fresh air base has been established by a mine rescue team before your arrival. The team was able to establish this line only and was pulled before making any of the openings in by this line due to low oxygen cylinder pressure on one of the team member's apparatus. This morning a three man crew entered the mine to work on the roof bolting machine. Around 9:35am the lead man called out and reported the Diesel rubber tired roof bolter had caught on fire and they were going to try to extinguishing it. He had requested the fan to be shut off where they could build some temporary controls to see if they could better control air around the fire. This is the last we have heard from the miners. The outside man turned the fan off as requested, then called Myself, MSHA and State Agencies, and mine rescue services like yourself, they are other teams onsite as your backup, but will not be able to assist your team in working the problem. I will have my electrician start or stop the blowing fan when requested by your team through the fresh-air-personnel.

Pertinent Mine Information:

The mine is a single level room and pillar drift salt mine.

The roof is supported with 4 foot rock bolts in all areas except areas the team may encounter in by that are caved.

The mine is walking height.

The mine has a supply of timbers that are kept in the mine that can be used if need to timber through areas deemed unsafe roof if needed to rescue the miners.

The mine uses diesel and battery powered equipment.

The mine has encountered methane in active workings.

The mine is listed as a category III mines in which noncombustible ore is extracted which liberate a concentration of methane that is explosive, is capable of forming explosive mixtures with air, or have the potential to do so based on the history of the mine, or the geological area in which the mine is located.

The mine is ventilated with a blowing only fan that is not running at this time that is located out by your location in the number 3 entry.

The mine map is up-to-date.

The mine has no known old works around the reserves or known gas wells.

All electrical power is locked and guarded at the surface substation on the surface except for power to run the fan if needed.

Good Luck