



Ohio Revised Code

Section 1561.01 Division of mineral resources management - mine and quarry definitions.

Effective: June 14, 2000

Legislation: House Bill 601 - 123rd General Assembly

As used in this chapter and Chapters 1563., 1565., and 1567. of the Revised Code, and in other sections of the Revised Code relating to the mining law, unless other meaning is clearly apparent in the language and context:

(A) "Mine" means an underground or surface excavation or development with or without shafts, slopes, drifts, or tunnels for the extraction of coal, gypsum, asphalt, rock, or other materials containing the same, or for the extraction of natural gas or petroleum by means that are substantially similar to the underground extraction of coal, gypsum, asphalt, rock, or other materials containing the same, with hoisting or haulage equipment and appliances for the extraction of such materials; and embraces the land or property of the mining plant, the surface, and underground, that is used for or contributes to the mining properties, or concentration or handling of coal, gypsum, asphalt, rock, or other materials containing the same or of natural gas or petroleum.

(B) "Shaft" means a vertical opening through the strata that is or may be used for ventilation, drainage, or hoisting workers or material or both in connection with the mining of coal or other minerals or materials.

(C) "Slope" means an incline or opening used for the same purpose as a shaft.

(D) "Drift" means an opening through the strata on which opening grades are such to permit the coal or materials to be hauled by mules or mechanical traction power, and which opening may be used for ventilation, drainage, ingress, egress, and other purposes in connection with the mining of coal or other materials.

(E) "Excavations and workings" means the excavated portions of the mine, those abandoned as well as the places actually being worked, underground workings, shafts, tunnels, and other ways in the course of being sunk or driven, slopes, tunnels, and other openings, and all such shafts, together with



all roads, appliances, machinery, and material connected with the same below the surface.

(F) "Face" means the advancing breast of any working place.

(G) "Pillar" means a solid block of ore, coal, or other material, left unmined to support the overlying strata in a mine.

(H) "Rock dusting" means to distribute or apply fine rock dust on underground surfaces in coal mines to prevent, check, control, or extinguish coal dust explosions.

(I) "Rock dust barriers" means a quantity of dry rock dust placed in suitable containers so located in underground coal mines that the advanced wave of a coal dust explosion will automatically cause the rock dust to be thrown into suspension to extinguish or arrest the flames of an explosion.

(J) "Operator" means any firm, corporation, or individual operating any mine or part thereof.

(K) "Superintendent" means the person who has, on behalf of the operator, immediate supervision of one or more mines.

(L) "Mine foreperson" means the person whom the operator or superintendent places in charge of the inside or outside workings of the mine and of the persons employed therein or thereat.

(M) "Foreperson" means the person designated to assist the mine foreperson in the immediate supervision of a portion or the whole of a mine or of the persons employed therein.

(N) "Fire boss" means a person whom the mine foreperson is required to employ under certain conditions designated in this chapter and Chapters 1563., 1565., and 1567. of the Revised Code, relative to explosive gases when the same are found to exist in a mine.

(O) "Shot firer" means a practical and experienced person whose duties are to charge, set off, and discharge the shots under the direction of the mine foreperson or foreperson.

(P) "Deputy mine inspector" means a person appointed in the division of mineral resources



management to inspect mines to see that this chapter and Chapters 1563., 1565., and 1567. of the Revised Code are complied with.

(Q) "Permissible or approved" as applied in connection with explosive flame safety lamps, electric safety lamps, electric machinery, rescue apparatus, and other devices, appliances, machinery, and equipment means materials, apparatus, devices, appliances, machinery, and equipment officially listed by the mine safety and health administration in the United States department of labor and approved as having met its requirements for the respective specified uses, or equivalent standards determined and established by the chief of the division of mineral resources management.

(R) "Gas" means an inflammable gas, chiefly methane, that when mixed in certain proportions with air is explosive.

(S) "Methane" is a hydrocarbon gas (CH₄) frequently encountered in coal mines.

(T) "Explosive mixture of methane and air" is a mixture of air and methane that will explode in the presence of a flame or hot spark when the methane content is between five and fifteen per cent.

(U) "Electric system" means all apparatus and electric circuits receiving electric energy or that may receive electric energy from a common source. Where the source of power is under control of the mine, such source of power will be considered as a part of the electric system. If power is obtained from a central station not under control of such mine, "electric system" refers only to that part of the system that is under control of such mine.

(V) "Electric circuit" means all conductors, including ground returns, furnishing energy to or receiving energy from electric apparatus.

(W) "Branch circuit" means all circuits connected to main circuits coming from generators or other main sources of supply.

(X) "Potential" and "voltage" are synonymous and mean electrical pressure.

(Y) "Potential of a circuit or voltage of a circuit, machine, or any piece of electrical apparatus" is the



potential normally existing between the conductors of such circuit or the terminals of such machine or apparatus.

(Z) "Difference of potential" means the difference of electrical pressure existing between any two points of an electrical system, or between any point of such system and the earth, as determined by a voltmeter.

(AA) " Low voltage supply" means the situation where the conditions of the supply of electricity are such that the difference in potential between any points of the circuit does not exceed four hundred fifty volts.

(BB) "High voltage supply" means the situation where the conditions of the supply of electricity are such that the difference of potential between any two points in the circuit exceeds four hundred fifty volts.

(CC) "Trailing cable" means an electric power cable attached to a mobile machine or unit.

(DD) "Grounding" means the connecting of any part of an electric system with the earth in such a manner that there is no difference of potential between such connected part and the earth.

(EE) "Mobile machinery or portable machinery" means machinery that moves about under its own power, or is carried, pulled, or trammed from place to place.

(FF) "Semipermanent machinery" means machinery that is mounted on a form of truck that permits it to be moved readily from place to place, but the function of which is to do its work in a semipermanent location.

(GG) "Permanent machinery" means machinery that is installed on a permanent foundation attached to the ground.

(HH) "Underground station" means any place underground where electrical machinery, transformers, or switchboards are permanently installed.



(II) "Electrical inspector" means a person appointed by the chief to examine surface and underground electrical systems and equipment at mines for fire, shock, and explosion hazards.

(JJ) "Well" means any borehole, whether drilled or bored, within the state, for the production, extraction, or injection of any gas or liquid mineral, excluding only potable water to be used as such, but including natural or artificial brines and oil field waters.

(KK) "Prepared clay" means a clay that is plastic and is thoroughly saturated with fresh water to a weight and consistency great enough to settle through the salt water in the well in which it is to be used, except as otherwise approved by the chief in exceptional cases.

(LL) "Rock sediment" means the combined cuttings and residue from drilling sedimentary rocks and formations, commonly known as sand pumpings.

(MM) "Accessible travel route" means an unobstructed passageway not less than twenty-four inches wide with reflective materials at intervals so as to be visible to persons using the passageway.

(NN) "Longwall working face" means a working face in a coal mine in which work extracting coal from its natural deposit in the earth is performed during a mining cycle by longwall mining.

(OO) "Longwall working section" means all areas from and including the section transformer to and including the longwall working face.

(PP) "Longwall mining" means a system of mining designed for full pillar extraction that minimizes the possibility of outburst or squeezes and allows total caving of the main roof in the pillar area.