

Man dies in mining accident in Fayette County

thenewscenter.tv/content/news/Man-dies-in-mining-accident-in-Fayette-County-467167853.html

By Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE, W.Va. (AP) - Officials say a man has died in a mine accident in West Virginia.



A statement from the state Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training says Thurman Watts, 34, of Harts, died Friday morning at a mine operated by Revelation Energy LLC in Fayette County.

The statement said Watts died when the bulldozer he was operating went over a high wall.

Officials are investigating.

Gov. Jim Justice and Sen. Joe Manchin put out statements saying the death was heartbreaking and asking for prayers for Watts' family.

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Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

Agency

Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

Board

Meeting:


Informal Hearing to review the issuance of Cessation Orders JLB0000334 and JLB0000427 to Revelation Energy LLC PN 1102080.

Meeting Details

Date / Time 10/2/2018 10:00 am

Location Big Stone Gap Office of the Department of Mines Minerals and Energy at 3405 Mountain Empire Road Big Stone Gap VA.

Board Website <http://www.dmme.virginia.gov>

Agenda document  [Meeting Agenda 9/13/2018](#) (25k)

Minutes document not available

Disability Friendly? Yes **Deaf interpreter available upon request?** No

Purpose of the meeting An informal hearing (§4VAC25-130-843.15 VCSMRR) will be conducted at the Lebanon Office of DMME at 135 Highland Drive Lebanon, Virginia at 9:00 AM on October 2, 2018. The hearing is to review the issuance of Cessation Orders JLB0000334 and JLB0000427 issued to Revelation Energy LLC PN 1102080. Please be advised that the informal hearing will be open to the public. The Informal Hearing Officer may accept oral or written argument and any other information relevant to the issuance of the cessation orders.

Meeting Scope Public hearing to discuss a proposed change
Discuss particular regulations / chapters
X
General business

Contact Information

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Coal Miner Killed in Kentucky's First Fatality of 2018

usnews.com/news/best-states/kentucky/articles/2018-03-28/coal-miner-killed-in-kentuckys-first-fatality-of-2018

AP

CUMBERLAND, Ky. (AP) — Kentucky recorded its first coal mining death of the year when a 29-year-old miner was killed in a conveyor belt accident in an underground Harlan County mine.

The Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet says Hubert Grubbs was working in the D11 Panther Mine in Cumberland. He was splicing a conveyor belt early Wednesday morning when it started unexpectedly, causing fatal injuries.

The mine was shut down after the death and inspectors have issued 15 state citations for non-compliance. Officials say inspectors visited the mine on Jan. 11 and gave a talk on safety and fatality prevention.

Grubbs, of Harlan, had 10 years of mining experience. The cabinet says in a release the mine is owned by Revelation Energy LLC.

The coal mine death was the country's fourth this year.

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Federal Investigators Looking Into Explosion That Killed 1

Nov. 19, 2018

Federal investigators have started looking into a weekend explosion at a hazardous waste site south of Boise, Idaho, that killed one worker and injured three others.

Vermont Fire Investigators: Garage Fire Traced to Wood Stove

Nov. 19, 2018

Vermont fire investigators have determined that a weekend fire that destroyed a garage in Grand Isle started near a wood stove and the blaze is considered accidental and not suspicious.

Texas Cop Arraigned in Double Homicide in Upstate NY

Nov. 19, 2018

A Texas police officer has made an appearance in a town court in upstate New York where he's among three people charged in connection with a double homicide.



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Nov. 19, 2018

Sen. Kamala Harris, whose memoir comes out Jan. 8, isn't only writing for those of voting age.

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Nov. 19, 2018

A central Florida town where dozens of African Americans were massacred is renouncing its racist past.

West Virginia First Lady, Artists Unveil Holiday Ornament

Nov. 19, 2018

West Virginia first lady Cathy Justice has unveiled this year's Governor's Mansion holiday ornament.

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Nov. 19, 2018

A judge has refused to dismiss criminal charges against a southern New Jersey police officer accused of striking a handcuffed teenage girl.

Lawsuit Filed Against Operators of Limo in Fatal NY Crash

Nov. 19, 2018

The parents of one of the 20 people killed in an upstate New York limousine crash are suing the operators of the vehicle.

Coal miner injured in Wise County mining incident

wjhl.com/local/coal-miner-injured-in-wise-county-mining-incident/1479922408

September 27, 2018

Local

By:

Slater Teague

Posted: Sep 27, 2018 04:46 PM EDT

Updated: Sep 27, 2018 06:40 PM EDT

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APPALACHIA, Va. (WJHL) - A miner was sent to a hospital after an incident at an underground coal mine Thursday morning.

It happened around 10:00 a.m. at the D-7 Osaka Mine in Appalachia, according to the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy.

A DMME spokesperson says a miner was operating a continuous miner when he struck an underground wall. That caused a rock, 30-inches in diameter, to fall between the roof and wall of the mine. It grazed the miner's neck and legs.

According to DMME, he was taken to a hospital where he was treated for minor injuries before being released.

The agency says the mine is owned by Revelation Energy.

DMME and the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration are investigating the incident. DMME says it has ruled it an accident, but the agency's investigation is ongoing.

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2.0 Revelation in my opinion

Equipment Operator (Former Employee) – Pathfork, KY – June 17, 2018

They always worked 6 days a week. The job itself was very unstable with the potential for a layoff at any given time. The pay was good however, but it did not outweigh the overall negative benefits of working there.

Was this review helpful?

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5.0 A very competitive company in the coal industry

Roof bolter operator (Former Employee) – Harlan, KY – October 17, 2018

If given the chance I'd love to go back to Revelation I just have some family issues arise that pulled me away from work now the matter is resolved. My superintendent at Revelation was by far one of the greatest men I've ever worked for in my life.

Pros: Excellent management

Cons: Healthcare wasn't the best would've liked better dental

Overall rating

2.6

Based on 16 reviews



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2.0

Ok

Dozer Operator (Former Employee) – Phelps, KY – September 25, 2017

The job wasn't bad at all but the management on site was shady to say the least and alot of great men lost there jobs to the buddy system. Some guys hired in had no clue how to do the job.

Was this review helpful?

Yes 3 No

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2.0

Get it and Growl

Super-Section Electrician/ Repairman (Current Employee) – Appalachia, VA – September 12, 2017

Very hard to get parts to work with, not to mention working every single Saturday and sometimes Sunday. Though my coworkers are some of the best guys you could ask to work with. Management at the site is great considering what they have to deal with.

Was this review helpful?

Yes 1 No

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1.0

Work you to death in a unsafe work enviroment

Roofbolter (Former Employee) – Whitewood, VA – September 10, 2017

Hated it. Have nothing good to say about this company. Rather not say anything at all. Sorry but I'd not recommend this company to any person looking to work in a coal mine

✓ Pros
None

× Cons
To many

Was this review helpful?

Yes 4 No

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1.0

Hoops doesnt care about his employees

Electrician (Current Employee) – Middlesboro, KY – August 12, 2017

Severely understaffed some men are trying to do 3 peoples jobs. Management is scared I'll take a vacation day because I do so much. Don't care to make you work sundays. I had 83 hours in one week. Health insurance isn't much . Jeff hoops (owner) threatens to shut us down on a weekly basis. Can't get anything you need to fix things , because hoops won't pay the vendors. Bosses are buying parts out of their pockets. Msha hates this company so that just makes it harder on the men. I've not seen my kids this week..... DO YOU GET THE POINT.

✓ Pros
Good men

× Cons
Everything

- 2.3 Job Security/Advancement
- 2.4 Management
- 2.6 Culture

Questions about REVELATION ENERGY

What is this companys pay rate like
3 people answered

What tips or advice would you give to someone interviewing at REVELATION ENERGY?
3 people answered

How long does it take to get hired from start to finish? What are the steps along the way?
One person answered

Show more

REVELATION ENERGY Reviews by Job Title

Equipment Operator	(5)
Miner	(2)
Attendant	(1)
Bulldozer Operator	(1)
Electrician	(1)

REVELATION ENERGY Reviews by Location

- Milton, WV
- Phelps, KY
- Whitewood, VA
- Appalachia, VA
- Hartan, KY

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2.0 Not the best choice for a work place

Coal miners wife! (Former Employee) – Whitewood, VA – August 4, 2017

Things are not as good! Liars & cut throat people always writing you up for some stupid thing. Hire employees that can't keep up with production! All they care about is making money. A man can't go 6 days a week & not get tired exhausted & pain all over. Need to run 5 days a week or have a weekend crew!

× **Cons**

Horrible insurance, Not enough time off, and you can't get off to take a vacation to use your PTO

Was this review helpful?

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Yes 6 No

2.0 Money is #1 -NO Life for EMPLOYEE

General Laborer (Former Employee) – Virginia – August 3, 2017

You work with Junk for 12 out of 12 hour days. Be ready to give up your life because Money is #1 to them and their Employees mean nothing. Health Insurance is a JOKE! but better than nothing. Management will LIE to you on a DAILY BASIS and look you in the eye while doing so. They will not stick to their word. Tell you one thing one week and change it the next. Lowest Paid in the Industry for the surrounding area.

✓ **Pros**

Beats Unemployment Line

× **Cons**

No life just work

Was this review helpful?

Share Report

Yes 6 No

2.0 Poor Management

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR (Former Employee) – Richlands, VA – July 11, 2017

worked for revelation energy 3 times in the past 11-12 years. company has grown tremendously and with that growth Revelation has not followed suit with internal office employees(planning, HR, etc)

✓ **Pros**

Pay well

× **Cons**

No job security

Was this review helpful?

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Yes 3 No 2

Snapshot Why Join Us **Reviews** Salaries Photos Jobs Q&A

Building a routine that was essential to daily activities. I loved helping put myself thru college. I enjoyed being a part of the team.

Was this review helpful?

Yes 4 No 4

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1.0 Heavy Equieptment operator

Heavy Equipment Operator (Former Employee) – Pax, WV – September 6, 2015

start 5am ran dozer worked roads built and maintained roads ran grader 16-M pushed shot material cut drill benches ran excecavator cleaned walls dug ditches built berms an average work 12 to 15 hours a day

Was this review helpful?

Yes 4 No 1

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4.0 Excellent job with great benefits

High Wall Miner-Laborer (Former Employee) – Milton, WV – June 23, 2015

Friendly enviroment
Great Pay
Paid Vacation

Hardest Part of the Job: General Labor
Management was fair. Didn't have enough co workers
Enjoyed the pay and benefits the most

✓ **Pros**
Pay

✗ **Cons**
Management

Was this review helpful?

Yes 3 No 2

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4.0 fast paced

Equipment Operator (Former Employee) – Milton, WV – March 24, 2015

good employment till coal prices dropped , Great co workers and management . hardest part was the 3 hour daily commute and 63 hr work week

✓ **Pros**
Insurance Healthcare paid vacation

✗ **Cons**
unstable employment

Was this review helpful?

Yes 1 No

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Snapshot Why Join Us **Reviews** ¹⁶ Salaries Photos Jobs ¹⁰ Q&A

doesn't believe in a job work/life balance, great co-workers

✓ **Pros**
free lunches

× **Cons**
n/a

Was this review helpful?

Yes 2 No 1

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1.0 Work,work,work

Lube Technician (Former Employee) – West Virginia – February 16, 2014

!2 hour work days, 6 days a week. You get 12 vacation days a year, insurance, 401k.

Was this review helpful?

Yes No 2

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4.0 stable work with long shifts 6 days a week. good pay

Heavy equipment operator (Former Employee) – Phelps, KY – January 5, 2013

Great place to work. Had new equipment and pay was great. Some bosses could be a bit angry at times if you know what I mean.

✓ **Pros**
great pay

× **Cons**
long hours, job in middle of nowhere

Was this review helpful?

Yes 3 No 2

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Company name

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UPDATE: Southern W.Va. mine issued 3 violation notices after fatal accident

wsaz.com/content/news/Man-dead-after-mining-incident-at-Fayette-County-mine-467150123.html

By The Associated Press; WSAZ News Staff

BECKLEY, W.Va. (AP) -- UPDATE 5/25/18 @ 9:10 p.m.

A state report says a mine in West Virginia has been issued three violation notices over the death of a man who was driving a bulldozer that slipped and fell 100 feet.

The Charleston Gazette-Mail reports the death of 34-year-old Thurman Watts was discussed by the state's Board of Coal Mine Health and Safety at a meeting Wednesday in Beckley.

Watts was operating the bulldozer Dec. 29 at the mine in Fayette County, and had driven onto uneven ground when it slipped.

The state report says Watts drove too close to a high wall's edge and the ground underneath appeared to have given way. The state Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training issued the violation notices to Revelation Energy LLC, the company that owns S7 Surface Mine.

ORIGINAL STORY 12/29/17

A man has died after an incident at a mine in Fayette County.

Thurman Watts, 34, of Harts, died when a bulldozer he was driving went over a high wall.

According to the Officer of Miners' Health, Safety and Training, the incident happened early Friday morning at the Revelation Energy, LLC mine.

Watts was a bulldozer operator at the mine.

An investigation into the incident is underway.

Gov. Jim Justice issued the following statement:

"Cathy and I are deeply saddened today after learning of the death of one of our coal miners in Fayette County.

"It's heartbreaking when we hear that one of our coal miners has lost their life while on the job.

"Please join us in praying for the family, friends, and co-workers of Thurman A. Watts and all of our hard working and dedicated coal miners in West Virginia."

W.Va. Regulators Halt Mine Near Kanawha State Forest

wvpublic.org/post/wva-regulators-halt-mine-near-kanawha-state-forest



WCHS TV

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection has closed down a mountaintop removal mine site located near a state forest in Kanawha County and is now blocking the mine operators from receiving new permits anywhere in the country.

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1:26

The DEP issued the cessation order Friday after 13 months of mining at the KD Mine #2. It's located adjacent to the Kanawha State Forest outside of Charleston.

A release from the agency said after a series of violations, they have also entered the mine's operators- Revelation Energy and Keystone Development- into the national Applicant Violator System. The national database will prevent the companies from ever holding another mining permit in the United States.

In a news release, the DEP said since the mine began operating in May 2014, the agency has issued 20 violations for various problems at the surface mine, including failure to meet monitoring and sampling requirements and exceeding both blasting and water quality discharge limits.

"Our mining program has been very diligent about monitoring this site," DEP Secretary Randy Huffman said in a written statement. "Because of the close proximity to the forest, we have gone above and beyond the normal regulatory requirements for both permitting and inspection enforcement."

Revelation and Keystone could have their names removed from the national database that forbids them from mining, and have their cessation order at the KD #2 site lifted, if they submit and the West Virginia DEP approves a plan to abate the violations and reclaim the site.

A spokesperson for the DEP said in an email Friday the company was already in "reclamation mode," but had recently removed all of their equipment from the site.

"The failure to abate CO is a formal declaration from DEP that no activity at the site can occur without approval from this agency," DEP spokesman Jake Glance said.

State regulators cite Harlan County coal mine after sediment leaks into creek

wvmt.com/content/news/State-regulators-cite-Harlan-County-coal-mine-after-sediment-leaks-into-creek-382317501.html

By Tanner Hesterberg



COLDIRON, Ky. (WYMT) - State regulators said Wednesday they partially shut down operations at a Harlan County coal mine after sediment leaked into a creek.

The Kentucky Department for Natural Resources cited Revelation Energy in connection to the leak and ordered mine operations on one of the company's permits to stop until the problem is corrected.

The sediment spill affected creek waters near California Hollow in the Coldiron community.

Burley Begley, who lives on California Hollow, said he planned on using water from the creek for lawn care and gardening.

"If I put a garden in, I can (usually) use the water for irrigation," Begley said Wednesday. "But right now this is unusable."

The Department for Natural Resources issued a notice of non-compliance to Revelation Energy for violations including water quality, method of operation and sediment control.

All mining activity on Permit 8480346 is ceased until the ponds that leaked the sediment are fixed and comply with department standards.

"There's a mine pit that's associated with this surface mining operation," said Linda Potter with

the Kentucky Department for Natural Resources. "Basically an undisturbed berm was breached. That means some of the water was allowed to drain from the mining pit that went into the creek and it didn't necessarily go through our approved sediment control structures."

State officials tested the water Tuesday to see if it contains unsafe levels of minerals due to the spill. They hope to have the results of those tests by the end of the week.

Potter said, as of Wednesday night, she was not aware of any fish or wildlife that died because of the sediment leak.

WYMT left a message for Revelation Energy on Wednesday evening, but we have not heard back yet.