

Preliminary Report of Accident

U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration



PR001 07/25/2024

1. Accident Type F - Fatal Injury		2. Accident Classification 12 - Powered Haulage		3. Date/Time of Accident 07/12/2024 11:10 PM		4. Date/Time of Death 07/23/2024 8:18 PM		5. Fatal Case No FAI-F00D54E-1																																																		
6. Mine Information																																																										
a) Mining Company Name:		Pocahontas Coal Company, LLC																																																								
b) Mine Name:		Wyco Surface Mine																																																								
c) Parent of Mining Company:		Metinvest B V																																																								
7. Mine Location Information				8. Mine ID Number		9. Union																																																				
a) City BECKLEY		b) County Wyoming		c) State WV		46-09627		No																																																		
10. Primary Mineral Mined Bituminous Coal And Lignite Surface Mining				11. Number of Employees		c) Open Pit/Quarry		d) Mill/Prep Plant																																																		
				a) Total 50		50		e) Other																																																		
12. Contractor Name					13. Contractor Union			14. Contractor ID Number																																																		
15. Contractor Address																																																										
a) City		b) County			c) State		d) Zip Code																																																			
16. Number of Contractor Employees																																																										
a) Total		b) Underground			c) Open Pit/Quarry		d) Mill/Prep Plant		e) Other																																																	
17. Number of Persons in Mine at Time of Accident					18. Number of Persons Unaccounted for																																																					
a) Mine Employees 20		b) Contractor Employees			a) Mine Employees 0		b) Contractor Employees																																																			
19. Accident Location 03 - Open Pit								20. Mining Height Feet Inches																																																		
21. Nonfatal Injuries		22. Fatal Injuries 1																																																								
23. Victims Information																																																										
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">a) First Name</th> <th style="width: 5%;">a) MI</th> <th style="width: 20%;">a) Last Name</th> <th style="width: 10%;">b) Age</th> <th style="width: 15%;">c) Regular Job Title</th> <th style="width: 20%;">d) Activity at Time of Accident</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Employee</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ashley</td> <td></td> <td>Cogar</td> <td>34</td> <td>Truck Driver</td> <td>Walking to truck</td> <td>Mine Employee</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="7">24. Mining Experience</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">a) Total Experience</td> <td colspan="2">b) Experience at the Mine</td> <td colspan="2">c) Experience at the Activity at the Time of the Accident</td> <td colspan="1">d) Experience with Contractor</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">1 Years 48 Weeks 0 Days</td> <td colspan="2">0 Years 17 Weeks 0 Days</td> <td colspan="2">0 Years 17 Weeks 0 Days</td> <td colspan="1">Years Weeks Days</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="7">25. Autopsy Performed</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="7">If Yes, Location</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>										a) First Name	a) MI	a) Last Name	b) Age	c) Regular Job Title	d) Activity at Time of Accident	Employee	Ashley		Cogar	34	Truck Driver	Walking to truck	Mine Employee	24. Mining Experience							a) Total Experience		b) Experience at the Mine		c) Experience at the Activity at the Time of the Accident		d) Experience with Contractor	1 Years 48 Weeks 0 Days		0 Years 17 Weeks 0 Days		0 Years 17 Weeks 0 Days		Years Weeks Days	25. Autopsy Performed							If Yes, Location						
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26. Mine Telephone No. (304) 774-0199																																																										
27. Description of Accident (include equipment involved, the exact location in the mine, and status and recovery operations) A truck driver was seriously injured after being struck by the bucket of a front-end loader. On July 23, 2024, the truck driver died from her injuries. <i>The information provided in this notice is based on preliminary data ONLY and does not represent final determination regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the accident.</i>																																																										
28. Equipment Manufacturer Caterpillar					29. Model 993K																																																					
30. District C1200 - Pineville District					32. Field Office C1201 - Pineville WV Field Office			33. Event Number F00D54E																																																		
34. Accident Investigator																																																										
First Name Aaron		MI D	Last Name Cline																																																							
35. MSHA Person Notified																																																										
First Name Kenneth		MI	Last Name Butcher			Date/Time Notified 07/13/2024 12:43 AM																																																				
36. Type of Report Initial		37. Name of Preparer			Date Prepared																																																					
		Full Name Aaron D Cline			07/24/2024																																																					
38. Reason for Amendment																																																										

Woman Dies in West Virginia's Second Reported Coal Mining Fatality of 2024

A West Virginia woman has died after an accident at a southern West Virginia coal mine

By Associated Press

July 24, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — A West Virginia woman died Wednesday more than a week after an accident at a southern West Virginia coal mine, Gov. Jim Justice said.

Ashley Cogar, 33, of Erbacon, was injured at the Wyco Surface Mine, near the border of Raleigh and Wyoming counties, Justice said in a news release.

“Our miners are true heroes, providing the essential work needed to energize and power steel-making in our country and worldwide,” Justice said. “Without them, we wouldn’t be able to live as we do, and their efforts deserve our utmost respect. Unfortunately, this tragic loss highlights the daily risks our fearless miners face.”

The July 12 accident involved power haulage, which is equipment such as shuttle cars, scoops, locomotives and front end loaders, according to the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Further details of the accident, which is under investigation by the Mine Safety and Health Administration and the state Office of Miners' Health Safety and Training, were unavailable, said Andy Malinoski, a spokesperson for the state Department of Homeland Security.

According to MSHA, the mine is operated by Pocahontas Coal Co. LLC and controlled by Metinvest, a worldwide supplier of raw materials and steel products based in The Netherlands.

It was the second reported coal fatality of the year in West Virginia and the fourth nationally, according to the Mine Safety and Health Administration. There were nine such U.S. deaths last year.

The employment of women in the mining industry in general is rare. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, an estimated 15% of the industry's workers were women in 2021, the latest year available. It didn't provide a breakdown of employment by gender in coal mining.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/west-virginia/articles/2024-07-24/woman-dies-in-west-virginias-second-reported-coal-mining-fatality-of-2024>