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Sean James KENNEDY

Findings and Recommendations

Inquiry pursuant to section forty two of the Mines Regulation Act -

Findings and recommendations -

Fatal inquiry - Sean James Kennedy at the Tick Hill mine 2nd october 1992

Before: Mr F W WindridgeWarden

Extract from the transcript of the inquiry into the fatal accident.

Warden:

Please be seated. The reviewers have considered the evidence presented to the inquiry today and I'd ask Mr.Hutchinson to read out the findings and recommendations.

Mr. Hutchinson:

Findings..

We the four reviewers selected by the warden under the provisions of Section 42 of the *Mines Regulation Act* 1964 to 1989, to inquire into the nature and cause of this fatal accident, and who's names appear below announce our findings as follows. Name of deceased Sean James Kennedy. Date and time of accident approximately 9:55 a-m, on friday the 2 of october 1992. Date and time of death. Because of the severity of injuries sustained by the deceased death was virtually instantaneous. Location of accident and death. At the face of eight seventy five sill drive in the underground workings of the Tick Hill gold mine, located approximately eighteen kilometres north of the monument in north west Queensland. Nature of accident.. On the morning of the accident three employees of Farnsway Faminco Proprietary Limited a contracting firm engaged by Carpentaria Gold Proprietary Limited to carry out underground development work at the Latters Tick Hill gold mine were mucking out the face of eight seventy five sill drive. They were the deceased Sean James Kennedy who operated an elphinstone r-twenty wait.. Twenty eight hundred load-haul dump unit and dump truck drivers Karen Maree Stokes and Shane Michael Prowse. After the heading had been cleared they proceeded to mark up the outline of the four metre by four metre face prior to the drilling of the next ground. Prowse departed leaving Kennedy and Stokes to finish the job. Kennedy stood in the bucket of the unit while Stokes now at the controls responded to Kennedy's signal and raised the bucket about two metres so that Kennedy could mark the upper side walls of the drive. She then advanced the unit towards the face. In some manner which will never be known for certain the deceased was crushed between the lip of the bucket and the face. The post mortem examination revealed the cause of death to be massive haemo thorax due to or as a consequence of crush injuries to chest. Cause of accident. The fatality was caused by the forward movement of the load-haul-dump unit towards the face by an operator who was largely inexperienced and unauthorised for that machine. While the deceased was in the bucket, the continued forward movement of the unit was made after sight had been lost of the man riding in the bucket. Recommendations.. The provisions of the *Mines*

Regulation Act 1964 to 1989 concerning the training and authorisation of persons carrying out prescribed work in, on or about a mine must be rigidly observed. These

Mr Hutchinson:

Provisions are set out in part 14 of the regulations under the above act. 2) Approved standard work procedures must be drawn up and enforced to cover the situation where persons are lifted in the bucket of load-haul-dump units. In this regard special attention must be given to those units equipped with z-bar linkage on the bucket. The geometry of which causes the bucket to tip automatically when the boom is raised above a certain height unless it is fully retracted. Three details of this accident should be promulgated to all mines where mechanised tractless mining methods are employed.

Warden:

Thank you Mr.Hutchinson. As warden I concur with those findings and I see no need to issue separate findings. I would indicate that after the evidence is transcribed documentation will be prepared and forwarded to the representatives at the bar table at no cost. Thank you gentlemen, madam for your attendance here today. If there are any further inquiries would you please see my clerk when the proceedings are closed. Thank you.

17th november, 1992

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Great state. Great opportunity.