

Information Notice

UNECE Workshop on Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines

September 22, 2011
Victoria Hotel
14 A Mira Avenue, Donetsk 83015, Ukraine

Introduction

In 2010 the UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane (in the further text: Ad Hoc Group of Experts), in cooperation with the Global Methane Initiative, published “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines”. This publication – available in English, French, Russian, and Chinese – details the benefits, objectives and principles of coal mine methane drainage and utilization. Its primary aim is to reduce fatalities and injuries of mine workers. It also aims to protect mine property, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and efficiently utilize valuable energy resources. Although these benefits are obvious, the value of the publication will be maximised only if its content is exposed to a wide and relevant audience that will subsequently adopt the best practices as a part of their normal course of coal mining.

Purpose of the Workshop

The workshop will disseminate the results of the “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines” to a targeted audience in Ukraine. It will include representatives of mining institutions, governmental and regulatory bodies as well as coal mines that are at risk or have experienced CMM accidents. The workshop in Donetsk will build upon the experience gained at the previous workshop on Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in China (October 2010) and Kazakhstan (May 2011). At Donetsk workshop the Ad Hoc Group of Experts will focus on the CMM problems that local mines are facing. It will analyse the key CMM safety issues and present options how to address them in a cost-effective way. Workshop presentations, report and other material will be available at <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/cmm.html> after the workshop.

Date and venue

The registration for the workshop will start at 9:00 on 21 September 2011, and the workshop at 13:00 on 22 September 2011, at Victoria Hotel, Mira Avenue 14A, Donetsk 83015, Ukraine.

Agenda & Timetable

International and national experts will review the key issues related to the best practice guidance on coal mine methane. The technical and others benefits as well as potential ways of adopting these practices within the existing and reorganized mining environment will equally be presented. The workshop will be executed as a combination of presentations, practical exercises and case studies.

UNECE BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE FOR EFFECTIVE METHANE DRAINAGE AND USE IN COAL MINES

- 13:00 – 13:15** **Introduction to the work of the UNECE Group of Experts on CMM**
Branko Milicevic, Secretary, UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on CMM
Raymond C. Pilcher, Chair, UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on CMM
- 13:15 – 13:45** **Assistance for a New Coal Mine Inspector Training Facility at Lugansk, Ukraine**
Jerry Triplett, Partnership for Energy and Environmental Reform
- 13:45 – 14:15** **Best Practice Explosion Prevention**
Dr. David Creedy, Sindicatum Carbon Capital
- 14:15 – 14:45** **Best Practice Guidance for Effective Post-Mining Drainage**
Dr. Erwin Kunz, DMT GmbH & Co. KG, Germany
- 14:45 – 15:15** *Refreshment Break*
- 15:15 – 15:45** **Application of Advanced Drilling Technology in Overpressured Formations**
Raymond C. Pilcher, Raven Ridge Resources, Incorporated
- 15:45 – 17:15** **Panel Discussion: How Can Adoption of Best Practices Improve Mine Safety?** *Open discussion of questions submitted by Ukraine mine professionals related to technical problems encountered in Ukraine coal mines*
Creedy, Kunz, Triplett, Pilcher, and Schwoebel
- 17:15 – 17:30** **Closing Remarks**

Working languages

To facilitate local participation as well as the active discussion on Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines and related exercises, there will be simultaneous Russian-English interpretation. Russian and English will be working languages of the workshop.

Registration of participants

Participants are encouraged to register in advance at the UNECE website (<http://www.unece.org/energy/se/cmm.html>). They also may choose to register in the morning of the day of the workshop or the day before, during the US EPA seminar, at the premises of Victoria Hotel in Donetsk.

Visas, transport and others

Participants requiring an entry Ukrainian visa should contact as early as possible the nearest diplomatic representation of Ukraine that issues visas. The UNECE, at their request, would be pleased to provide the invitation letter to attend the workshop to those participants. The workshop organizers do not cover any transport or hotel accommodation expenses of the workshop.