

From: [Jeff Cross](#)
To: [CWPSC](#)
Subject: Coal train Drivers
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In relation to the inquiry into coal miners black lung disease I believe coal train Drivers should also be included in these statistics and medical testing. For as long as the coal has been mined it has been transported by trains. The Drivers or Drivers Assistants of these trains were once required to spend the entire loading or unloading time in the coal loadouts to monitor the loading / unloading which was at least several hours per shift. During this time they were exposed to fine coal dust from the loading / unloading process. This dust used to get through the air conditioner filters where supplied and was evident as a fine dust throughout these loadouts and more importantly the respirable content to small to observe. While the trains were enroute to or from the ports they are constantly crossing other trains and travelling through a cloud of fine coal dust blown from the wagons of the loaded trains and would contaminate the Drivers cabins, engine rooms and all work areas.

The coal train Drivers were / are exposed to this dust every time they go to work and in most cases for many years.

Could you please consider these issues as part of your investigations.

Regards
Jeff Cross