**Section 300.230 Use of Explosives; Blasting Signs, Warnings, and Access Control**

a) Specifications. Signs and markers required under this Part shall:

1) Be posted and maintained by the mine operator;

2) Be of uniform design that can be easily seen and read; and

3) Be made of durable material.

b) Duration of maintenance. Signs and markers shall be maintained during the conduct of all activities to which they pertain.

c) Blasting signs. The mine operator shall:

1) Display blasting signs along the perimeter of any blasting zone. Signs shall be posted every 500 feet or less; and at the point where any other road provides access to the blasting zone;

2) At all entrances to the operation from public roads or highways, place conspicuous signs which indicate explosives are used at the operation and which clearly list and describe the meaning of the audible blast warning and all-clear signals that are in use;

3) Ensure that the blast site is attended at all times by an authorized person after explosive materials or initiating systems are brought to the blast location.

4) Ensure the area is barricaded and posted with warning signs, such as "Danger", "Explosives", or "Keep Out"; or flagged against unauthorized entry when explosive materials or initiating system are present; and

5) Provide a map designating the current blasting zone which must be made available for onsite review and shall also be on file with the Department.

d) Warning and all-clear signals of different character or pattern that are audible within the blasting zone shall be given.

e) Access to the blasting site and blasting zone shall be controlled to prevent the presence of unauthorized personnel during blasting until an authorized representative of the operator has reasonably determined:

1) That no unusual circumstances, such as undetonated charges, exist; and

2) That access to and travel in or through the area can be safely resumed.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. 9650, effective June 24, 2024)