CCASE:

BETTY B COAL v. SOL (MSHA)

DDATE: 19920219 TTEXT: Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission Office of Administrative Law Judges 2 Skyline 10th Floor 5203 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, Virginia 22041

BETTY B COAL COMPANY, INC., CONTESTANT

CONTEST PROCEEDINGS

v.

Docket No. VA 91-410-R Through VA 91-411-R

SECRETARY OF LABOR, MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (MSHA), RESPONDENT

Citation No. 9861401; 4/4/91 Through No. 9861402; 4/4/91

Mine No. 12 44-06423

Docket No. VA 91-412-R Citation No. 9861047; 4/4/91

Mine No. 11 44-04204

SECRETARY OF LABOR, MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (MSHA), PETITIONER CIVIL PENALTY PROCEEDINGS

Docket No. VA 91-454 A. C. No. 44-04204-03538D

v.

Docket No. VA 91-455 A. C. No. 44-06423-03525D

BETTY B COAL COMPANY, INC., RESPONDENT

> No. 11 Mine DECISION APPROVING SETTLEMENT ORDER OF DISMISSAL

Before: Judge Broderick

On December 4, 1991, the Secretary filed a motion to approve a settlement between the parties in the above cases. The cases include 3 alleged violations of 30 C.F.R. 70.209(b), each of which was originally assessed at \$1200. The Secretary continues to assert that the violations resulted from a deliberate act, which is denied by the mine operator. The degree of negligence is disputed, and the parties agree to a reduction in the total penalties from \$3600 to \$2880.

I have considered the motion in the light of the criteria in section 110(i) of the Act and conclude that it should be approved.

Accordingly, the settlement motion is APPROVED. The operator is ORDERED to pay within 30 days of the date of this order, the sum of \$2880 for the violations charged in this proceeding.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the contest proceedings are  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{DISMISSED}}\xspace.$ 

James A. Broderick Administrative Law Judge