

# Statement

## Nationwide Skills Contest

October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 2012

My name is Newt Palin, Superintendent of the Romney Coal Company, Ryan Mine. You are located at the fresh air base on the 2 north section at #22 crosscut. A crew of 9 people went in to this section yesterday to mine coal and 2 of the crew made it out after the mine was being evacuated due to the 3<sup>rd</sup> south section cutting in to old works. The rest of the mine has been evacuated and explored and there are miners missing on this section.

We have a crew drilling boreholes in all entries hoping to find the missing miners. If we make contact with anyone we will let you know. We have 2 holes down now and are drilling the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Some of the holes have produced methane and carbon monoxide and we are concerned with the gas contents so be careful. We don't want to get anybody hurt.

The mine liberates 500,000 cfm of methane every 24 hours. The mine is equipped with up to date safety equipment such as communications, tracking and refuge chambers. We also have a lot of self rescuers underground too.

The mine is ventilated with an exhaust fan that is running at this time and is capable of being reversed if necessary. We also have materials on the surface in case you need anything so don't hesitate to ask.

The mine map is up to date and you will receive 2 copies and the problem when you are ready to start or 7 minutes from the time you received this statement.