According to the CDC, Electrical accidents are a leading cause of mining fatalities, accounting for over 6% of deaths between 2000 and 2009. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data for 2003 to 2009 reveal that the mining industry has an electrical fatality rate approximately 8 to 12 times the rate for all U.S. industries.

**WHAT IS ELECTRICITY?** A fundamental form of energy observable in positive and negative forms that occurs naturally or is produced and that is expressed in terms of the movement and interaction of electrons.

**Best practices to reduce electrical accidents:**

1. **Lockout/Tagout.**
2. **Don’t rush, never work alone, and triple check everything.**
3. **Identify and control all hazardous energy sources.**
   a. **Open the circuit breaker or load break switch to de-energize the incoming power cables or conductors.**
   b. **Open the visual disconnect.**
   c. **Lockout/Tagout the visual disconnect.**
   d. **Ground the de-energized conductors.**
4. **Train miners on equipment they may use.**
5. **Electricians must know how to de-energize and disconnect.**
6. **Always troubleshoot without power first.**
7. **If you must troubleshoot an energized circuit, use properly rated personal protective equipment to prevent hazards.**

What is the definition of a shock absorber? A careless electrician.

As funny as this sounds, electricity is no joke and deserves our utmost attention.

Please use common sense and follow regulations to minimize risk.

*Title 45-Chapter 11-Section 915 – Electricity- Rules and Procedures*