



For Immediate Release

Contact: Craig Orfield  
(202) 224-6770

Thursday, July 24, 2008

***ENZI CALLS CRANDALL CANYON FINDINGS “DISTURBING”  
SAYS THOSE AT FAULT FOR MINE TRAGEDY MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE***

**Washington D.C.** – U.S. Senator Mike Enzi, R-WY, Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP Committee), issued the following statement on the Mine Safety and Health Administration’s (MSHA) investigation into the accident at Crandall Canyon Mine, which the Department of Labor released today:

“MSHA’s report includes a number of very disturbing findings. It appears from this report that these tragic fatalities might have been preventable. Those at fault for this tragedy must be held accountable,” Enzi said.

“My deepest sympathies go out to the families of the miners and rescue workers who lost their lives at Crandall Canyon last year. To miners and their families, nothing is more important than safety – and safety must be our highest priority. I plan to review the findings of this investigation thoroughly to determine what lessons we can learn. We can honor those whose lives have been lost by acting to ensure that the tragedy will not be repeated.”

As the agency’s final report was issued today, MSHA announced that it would levy over \$1.6 million in fines for the operator of Crandall Canyon Mine and \$220,000 for the engineering consulting company the mine’s operator relied upon.

Six miners were killed in an accident at the Utah mine on August 6, 2007. Two mine employees and an inspector with the Mine Safety and Health Administration died ten days later during rescue efforts.

#####

