

REGIONAL OBSERVATIONS OF MINING BLASTS BY THE GSETT-3 SEISMIC MONITORING SYSTEM

Brian W. Stump and D. Craig Pearson
Los Alamos National Laboratory
EES-3, MS-C335
Los Alamos, NM 87545

The cessation of testing of any nuclear explosive devices in all environments is the goal of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. In order to assure compliance with such a treaty, an international monitoring system has been proposed. This system will include seismic, infrasound, hydroacoustic and radionuclide monitors located throughout the world. The goal of this system is the detection of any nuclear test. In preparation for this treaty, a series of monitoring system tests, focusing primarily on seismic observations, have been undertaken. The most recent of these tests, Group of Scientific Experts Technical Test Three (GSETT-3), provides valuable data for assessing future monitoring systems. During the course of this experiment, seismic events associated with earthquakes, nuclear explosions and mining explosions have been recorded. This presentation will discuss the numbers and types of mining explosions triggering the system, in a particular area. Possible implications for the mining industry will be explored.