FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| STATEMENT | OF CHANGES | IN BENEFICIAL | OWNERSHIP |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|

| OMB APPRO | DVAL | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Name and Address of Reporting Person* BIGLER JOSEPH A (Last) (First) (Middle) | | | | 3. D | Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES CO [MSA] Indeed a seriest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | all appli Directo | cable) or (give title | | 10% Ow Other (s below) | vner | |
|---|--|--|------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|-------|-----|--|--------|--|--|------------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|------------------------------|--|--|
| 1000 CRANBERRY WOODS DRIVE | | | | 02/ | 02/16/2012 Vice President | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (Street) CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP PA | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Indiv Line) X | ′ | | | | | |
| (City) | (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Person | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da | | | | Execution Date, | | Transaction Dis | | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) o Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 | | nd 5) Securitie Benefici Owned F | | es Fo ially (D Following (I) | | n: Direct r Indirect Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | e | Reporte Transac (Instr. 3 | tion(s) | | 1 | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock, no par value 02/16/2 | | | | /2012 | 2012 | | A | | 829 | A | \$0.0 | \$0.0000 | | 57,933 | | D | | | |
| Common Stock, no par value 02/17/2 | | | | /2012 | 2012 | | A | | 3,404 | A \$0. | | 0000 | 61 | 61,337 | | D | | | |
| | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Derivative Conversion Date | | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | e Executio | | 4. Transa Code (I 8) | | ı of | | 6. Date Exercisa Expiration Date (Month/Day/Yea | | • | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4) | | De Se (Ir | . Price of Perivative Security Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | ly | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisal | | Expiration Date | Title | Amou or Numb of Share | er | | | | | |
| Incentive Stock Option | \$36.69 | 02/17/2012 | | | A | | 2,725 | | 02/17/20 | 15 (| 02/17/2022 | Common Stock, no par value | 2,72 | 25 | \$36.69 | 2,725 | | D | |
| Non- statutory Stock Option | \$36.69 | 02/17/2012 | | | A | V | 9,091 | | 02/17/20 | 15 (| 02/17/2022 | Common Stock, no par value | 9,09 |)1 | \$36.69 | 9,091 | | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

Douglas K. McClaine, 02/21/2012 **Attorney** in Fact

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

^{*} If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

^{**} Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).