Research on the Mining Practice of Protection Layer in the Complex Geological Conditions of Qidong Coal Mine

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Abstract. To study the effect of 82 coal seam unloading and outburst prevention with 71 coal seam mining, as well as the influence of the integrated application of research methods of theoretical analysis and field practice, the feasibility of the protective layer under the condition of mining research, and in the process of 71 coal seam mining, below 82 coal seam gas content, gas pressure and the effect of the deformation of coal unloading field measurement and comprehensive theoretical analysis. The research results show that the protective layer of 71 coal seam as the lower 82 coal mining is feasible in theory, in 7137 working face of the actual mining process, the lower 82 significant increase in the permeability of coal seam, the gas content is greatly reduced, unloading deformation effect is obvious, further verify the three 71 coal seam as the lower protective layer of 82 coal mining, the discharge pressure and outburst prevention with dual effectiveness, to ensure safe and efficient mining of coal seam 82.

Key words: Upper protective layer mining; Pressure relief effect; close distance coal seams.

1. Introduction
The research shows that the protective layer mining is the most effective and economical regional comprehensive countermeasure at present [1-3]. In the process of protective layer mining, the relation between protective layer and protected layer can be divided into upper protective layer mining and lower protective layer mining. For the mining of upper protective layer, predecessors have carried out in-depth research [4-9]; liu zhen et al. have done relevant research on the gas treatment technology of the protective layer mining on the close outburst coal seam group; Wang haifeng et al. carried out some research on the gas emission rule of the protective layer mining face at close range, and on the basis of this, optimized the pressure relief gas extraction parameters of the protective layer, and all the above studies have obtained some meaningful conclusions. However, there are few studies on the mining of multiple protective layers in the mining process of coal seams. On the basis of previous research and according to the practical situation of qidong coal mine project, this paper conducts a detailed
investigation and analysis of the effect of overlying 61 and 71 coal seam mining on the pressure relief of 82 coal seam by combining theoretical analysis and field practice.

2. Geological Survey
The Qidong coal mine mainly mines 32, 61, 71, 82 and 9 coal seams, all of which are coal and gas outburst coal seam. The interval between layers of the central coal group 61, 71 and 82 in the third mining area is 40.17m and 30.19m respectively. Because the 61 coal seam of this mining area is located in the area without the danger of coal and gas outburst, it is used as the protective layer of the first mining of the underlying 71 and 82 coal seam, and then the 71 coal seam is used as the protective layer of the 82 coal seam. Since 61 coal seam has been mined, this paper mainly studies the protective effect of 71 coal seam mining on 82 coal seam on the basis of the first mining protective layer.

Test the average coal 7137 working face of thick 3.3 m, average 13 \(^\circ\) Angle. Below the working face is the unmined 82 coal seam, the normal distance is about 30m. The working face adopts the coal mining method of long wall retreating and comprehensive mechanization with full mining height in one time, and the roof is managed by the whole span method. 82 average coal seam thickness of 1.85 m, an average of 13 \(^\circ\) Angle.

Based on the 7137 working face as test protective layer of working face, The working face average coal seam thickness of 3.3m, average Angle of 13\(^\circ\). Below the working face is the unmined 82 coal seam, the normal distance is about 30m. The working face adopts the coal mining method of long wall retreating and comprehensive mechanization with full mining height in one time, and the roof is managed by the whole span method. Average 82 coal seam thickness of 1.85m, average Angle of 13\(^\circ\).

3. Downgoing Mining Feasibility Judgment
The spacing between the working face of 7137 protective layer and the underlying 82 coal seam is 28~32m, with an average of 30m. Referring to the technical manual for coal mine gas disaster prevention and utilization (revised edition) [11] and combining the domestic mining experience of upper protective layer, it can meet the requirement of effective layer spacing on inclined protective layer when it is not pumped out. Therefore, it is considered that the mining of 71 coal seam is effective for the pressure relief protection and regional anti-outburst measures of 82 coal seam, which is technically feasible.

At the same time, the average mining height of 7137 protective working face is 3.3m, which meets the requirement that the minimum mining thickness of protective working face stipulated in article 46 of coal and gas outburst prevention and control regulation is more than 0.5m.

The maximum protection sag of the upper protective layer to the lower protective layer shall be determined by reference to appendix D.3 of the regulations on coal and gas outburst prevention. As the 71 coal seam in the test area is a gentle inclined coal seam, the maximum protection sag of upper protective layer mining (gentle inclination and inclination) is less than 50m, referring to the table D.2 in appendix D.3 of the regulations on coal and gas outburst prevention and control.

\[ S_{up} = S_{up} \times \beta_1 \times \beta_2 \]  

Type : \( S_{up} \)—The theoretical maximum protection sag of the upper protective layer, m.

It is related to working face length L and mining depth H, and can be taken as reference to table D.3 in appendix D.3 of coal and gas outburst regulation. When L > 0.3h, L= 0.3h, but L should not be greater than 250m.

\( \beta_1 \)—Influence factor of protective layer mining.

When M\( \leq \)M\(_0\), \( \beta_1=\)M/M\(_0\); when M > M\(_0\), \( \beta_1=\)1.

M—The mining thickness of the protective layer, m.

M\(_0\)—Minimum effective thickness of protective layer, m.

M\(_0\) can be determined by reference to FIG. D.3 in appendix D.3 of coal and gas outburst prevention regulations. (under this condition, M\(_0\)=0.6m)

\( \beta_2 \)—Interlayer hard rock (sandstone, limestone) content coefficient.
As η percentage of the rock between layers, When η≥50%, β2=1-0.4η/100, and when η<50%, β2=1.
(under this condition, η=94.76%)
By substituting each parameter into equation (1), it can be calculated that the maximum effective
protective sag of the underlying 82 seam by mining of 71 coal seam is about 36.64m. Because the spacing
between the working face of the protective layer of 7137 and the underlying seam of 82 is 28~32m, less
than the general maximum protective vertical, it is considered that the mining of 71 coal seam as the
protective layer of the underlying seam of 82 is feasible in theory.

4. Analysis of Impact of Downgoing Mining on Protected Coal Seam

4.1. Measurement of Gas Parameters in Protected Area of Coal Seam

4.1.1. Original Gas Pressure Measurement of Protected Coal Seam 82. The original gas pressure of
the 82 coal seam was measured before the mining of the 7,37 protective working face. The gas pressure
was measured by direct method, mechanical grouting sealing hole and passive pressure measurement.
According to the development preparation of Qidong coal mine and the roadway layout conditions, the
pressure measurement site is arranged in the no.1 gas extraction roadway of the east wing of the third
mining area, all of which are downward piercing boreholes. Moreover, before the pressure measurement
borehole, the perforated gas extraction borehole of 82 coal seam has not been constructed. A gas pressure
measuring point of 82 coal seam (two boreholes in total) is arranged in the no.1 gas extraction roadway
of east wing of the third mining area within the theoretical protection range of 7137 protective layer
working face. The construction parameters and test results of borehole are shown in table 1.

According to the requirements of the direct measurement method of gas pressure in coal seam
underground, the maximum gas pressure at this point is taken as the gas pressure at the same pressure
measuring site. Therefore, the measured gas pressure of 82 coal seam in the protected area of Qidong
coal mine of the third mining area is 1.9Mpa (elevation -589.3m) before the unexploited protective layer
and the gas extraction.

| Table 1. Actual construction parameters of pressure drill |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hole No. | Azimuth Angle | Deep hole | Hole sealing length | Control the elevation | Control the depth | Gas pressure |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| 1# | 134 | -35 | 20 | 15 | -588.4 | 608.4 | 1.9 |
| 2# | 254 | -35 | 20 | 16.5 | -589.3 | 609.3 | 1.8 |

4.1.2. Original Gas Content Determination In Coal Seam 82 of Protective Layer. The indirect method
is used to determine the gas content in coal seam. First, the original gas pressure in coal seam should be
measured in the underground or calculated according to the known law, and the coal porosity, adsorption
constant and industrial analysis of coal after fresh coal sample is taken to the laboratory, and then the
gas content in coal seam can be calculated according to Langmuir equation.

The calculation formula is:

\[ X = \frac{a \cdot b \cdot P}{1 + b \cdot P}, \quad 100 - A_{ad} - M_{ad} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + 0.3M_{ad}} + \frac{10F \cdot P}{\gamma} \]  

Type: a, b—Adsorption constant, a =17.3428cm³/g, b =0.8769MPa⁻¹;
P—Gas pressure, P =1.9MPa;
Mad—Moisture, Mad =0.44%;
Aad—Ash, Aad =14.41%;
F—Porosity, F =2.92%;
γ—Apparent density, γ =1.33 t/m³.

The above parameters were substituted into equation (2) and calculated that the original gas content of 82 coal seam in the protected area was 8.5379m³/t before the unexploited protective layer.

At the same time, the DGC direct determination device was used to determine the gas content of 82 coal seam by direct method when the pressure borehole was measured and the pressure relief gas was drilled in the no.1 gas drainage roadway. The measured results are shown in table 2.

| Coal seam | Hole No. | Control the elevation /m | Control the depth /m | Gas content m³/t |
|-----------|---------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 82        | 44 group 2# | -568.2                   | 588.2                 | 9.74            |
| 82        | 54 group 3# | -582.0                   | 602.0                 | 8.50            |
| 82        | 54 group 4# | -575.2                   | 595.2                 | 8.56            |
| 82        | C1       | -582.6                   | 602.6                 | 7.04            |
| 82        | C2       | -611.0                   | 631.0                 | 7.97            |

Table 2. List of measured gas content in coal seam

To sum up, both indirect method and direct method were used to measure the gas content of the protected coal seam 82 in the test area from 7.04~9.74m³/t before the protective layer and gas extraction.

4.2. Analysis On The Effect of Pressure Relief of The Protected Layer (82 coal seam) After Mining The Protective 7137 Working Face

4.2.1. Investigation of Angle and Range of Pressure Relief. Protection According to the relevant requirements of the regulations on coal and gas outburst prevention and control, the range of protective layer tendency protection shall be determined according to the theoretical pressure relief Angle. Average 7137 working face of coal seam dip Angle for 13 °, theory of pressure relief Angle for δ3=δ4=75°. The theoretical protection range of coal seam 82 along the trend direction is shown in figure 1.

According to the calculation, the position of the upper and lower theoretical protection line of the coal seam 82 of the protected layer corresponds to the normal position of the air lane and machine lane of the protected layer face downward (internal fault) and upward (internal fault)14.1m, respectively, relative to the working face of the 7137 protective layer.

![Figure 1. The range of theoretical protection of trend direction](image)

According to article 51 of regulations on coal and gas outburst prevention and control and practical experience of mining protective layers at home and abroad, when the swelling deformation rate of the protected coal and gas outburst coal seam is more than 3‰, the protected coal seam can get effective
pressure relief protection. Field test point layout of coal seam inclination expansion deformation of the protected layer 82 is shown in Figure 2, and expansion deformation curve of relevant inspection borehole is shown in Figure 3~4.

![Figure 2. Profile of borehole layout for site investigation of inclined pressure relief Angle](image1)

![Figure 3. Expansion and deformation curves of borehole are investigated below the dip](image2)

![Figure 4. Shows the expansion and deformation curve of borehole above the inclination](image3)

According to the calculation, the relative deformation rates of the vertical coal seam directions corresponding to the boreholes A1, A2, C1 and C2 are all greater than 3‰. Obviously, the coal point positions in these boreholes are all within the effective pressure relief protection range. According to the investigation results of relative deformation of boreholes of A2, A3, C2 and C3, interpolation method was adopted and calculated through theoretical calculation. the pressure relief Angle of mining on 7,37
working face to 82 coal seam inclined direction was $\delta_3=77^\circ$, $\delta_4=76^\circ$, and the actual position of the pressure relief protection line is shown in Figure 5.

![Figure 5. Profile of site investigation results of inclined pressure relief Angle](image)

It can be seen from Figure 5 that, relative to the work face of the 7137 protective layer, the position of the protective line above and below the inclined seam 82 of the protected layer corresponds to the normal position of the air lane and machine lane of the work face of the 7137 protective layer, respectively 7.26m and 7.05m.

4.2.2. Investigation of Pressure Relief Angle and Range of Pressure Relief Protection. According to the relevant requirements of the regulations on coal and gas outburst prevention and control, the range of protective layer's strike shall be determined according to the theoretical pressure relief Angle. 7137 working face of 71 the average Angle of coal seam for 13°, the theory of pressure relief Angle $\delta_5=56^\circ$. The theoretical protection range of coal seam 82 along the strike direction is shown in Figure 6.

According to the calculation, relative to the working face of the 7137 protective layer, the position of the coal seam 82 trend line of theoretical pressure relief protection line of the protected layer is respectively within the position of the initial mining line and the normal line of stop mining line of the 7137 working face at 20.36m.

![Figure 6. Range of theoretical protection of strike direction](image)

According to article 51 of regulations on coal and gas outburst prevention and control and practical experience of mining protective layers at home and abroad, when the swelling deformation rate of the protected coal and gas outburst coal seam is more than 3‰, the protected coal seam can get effective pressure relief protection. Field test point layout of coal seam towards expansion deformation of the
protected layer \(8_2\) is shown in Figure 7, and expansion deformation curve of relevant inspection borehole is shown in Figure 8–9.

![Figure 7. Profile of borehole layout for site investigation of pressure relief Angle](image)

![Figure 8. The expansion and deformation curve of borehole is investigated in trend](image)

![Figure 9. Expansion and deformation curve of borehole in trend investigation](image)

According to the calculation, the relative deformation rates of the vertical coal seam directions corresponding to the boreholes B1, B2, D1 and D2 are all greater than 3‰. Obviously, the coal point positions in these boreholes are all within the effective pressure relief protection range. According to the investigation results of relative deformation of boreholes of B1, B2, D1 and D2, interpolation method was adopted and calculated through theoretical calculation. The pressure relief Angle of mining on 7,37
working face to 82 coal seam inclined direction was $\delta_5=57^\circ$, and the actual position of the pressure relief protection line is shown in Figure 10.

![Figure 10. 7137 working face mining section of the strike protection range of 82 coal seam](image)

It can be seen from Figure 10 that, relative to the protective mining face of 7137 protective layer, the position of the protective line at the cutting hole and stop-mining line of the 82 coal seam of the protected layer corresponds to the position of the normal line of the cutting hole and stop-mining line of the protective layer.

Combined with the survey of protective layer mining pressure relief protection Angle, after 7137 protective coal face mining, underlying 82 coal seam in pressure relief Angle defined according to the actual trials are within the scope of protection, coal bed expansion deformation rate $>3\%$, the basis for the prevention and control of coal and gas outburst regulations stipulated in article 40, mining of 7137 working face of 82 coal seam underlying pressure relief protection effectively.

### 4.3. Analysis of The Effect of Regional Prevent Outburst Measures In The Coal Seam 82 of The Protected Layer After Mining of The Protective Working Face of 7137 Protective Layer

Combined with the pressure relief gas extracted from 82 coal seam by drilling the protective layer, the cumulative gas extraction amount of 82 coal seam was calculated, and the evaluation of extraction standard of 82 coal seam was carried out. When the extraction and extraction of 82 coal seam reached the standard, then the regional outburst prevention measures were tested.

Residual gas content and residual gas pressure of coal seam 82 of protective layer were measured in the field, and the test results were shown in table 3.

| Hole No. | Control the elevation /m | residual gas content /m$^3$/t | residual gas pressure /MPa |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1#       | -598.0                  | /                             | 0.14                      |
| 2#       | -595.3                  | 1.97                          | 0                          |
| 3#       | -618.0                  | 3.56                          | 0.26                      |
| 4#       | -614.0                  | 3.64                          | 0.28                      |
| 5#       | -596.5                  | 4.69                          | 0.15                      |
| 6#       | -599.4                  | 5.10                          | 0.40                      |

In 7137 face pressure relief to protect the effective range, 82 coal seam in the residual gas pressure is 0.40 MPa, the residual gas content is 5.10 m$^3$/t, meet the meet the prevention and control of coal and gas outburst regulations as stipulated in article 51 of the residual gas content is less than 0.74 MPa, the residual gas content is less than 8 m$^3$/t request, therefore, according to the residual gas pressure, the
residual gas content test results, evaluate the efficacy of the outburst prevention measures of 82 coal seam area effectively.

5. Conclusion
By combining theoretical analysis and field observation, this paper makes an in-depth study on the effect of the upper protective layer mining of the close coal seam group in Qidong coal mine. The following conclusions are obtained:

(1) The feasibility of upper protective layer mining under this condition is analyzed theoretically. It is calculated that the maximum effective protective overhang of the underlying 82 coal seam is 36.64m in the mining of 71 coal seam. As the spacing between the protective face of the 7,37 protective layer and the underlying 82 coal seam in the test area is 28~32m, less than the general maximum protective overhang, it is considered that the mining of 71 coal seam as the protective overhang of the underlying 82 coal seam is feasible in theory.

(2) In the process of downward mining, the mining of 71 coal seam has good pressure relief effect on the underlying 82 coal seam and can basically eliminate the outburst risk of 82 coal seam. However, considering that the local gas is still large, the outburst risk of the protected coal seam 82 should be completely eliminated in the mining process by further combining the pressure relief gas extraction.

(3) In this paper, after the protective layer mining, the evaluation of the extraction standard effect of the pressure relief gas extraction amount of the protective layer is insufficient; The effect of the stress concentration area formed by geological structure and mining disturbance on the protected layer is not fully considered. The above problems still need further study.

Acknowledgments
This work was financially supported by the national key research and development program of China (2017YFC0804206).

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