**Title of manuscript:** Study on three-dimensional stress field of gob-side entry retaining by roof cutting without pillar under near-group coal seam mining

**Reviewers' comments:** The manuscript presents the study on stress field distribution of gob-side entry retaining by roof cutting and traditional remaining pillar based on theoretical analysis and numerical simulation. However, more considerations about the mechanical model of surrounding rock are needed. Accordingly, the authors are required to revise the manuscript. The following comments are requested to be addressed.

**Major comments**

1) Page 4 to 6: consider arching effect on the surrounding rock (Lee et al. 2006).


**Minor comments**

1) A number of paragraphs start with prepositional phrase, e.g. As shown in Figure x. Please rephrase them.

2) Figures 5 and 6: need to improve the resolution of the figures.

3) Figure 7: add indicators in the figure to describe each layer.

4) Figure 11: avoid the overlapped dimension lines and separate them from the figure.