



October 29, 2015

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
Environmental Quality Board  
P.O. Box 8477  
17105-8477

RE: Remining Requirements [ 25 PA. CODE CHS. 87, 88 AND 90 ]  
[45 Pa.B. 5920]  
[Saturday, October 3, 2015]

To Whom It May Concern:

The Pennsylvania Coal Alliance (PCA) respectfully submits the following comments in support of the Environmental Quality Board's above referenced proposed rulemaking.

PCA is the principal trade organization representing underground and surface bituminous coal operators in Pennsylvania, as well as other associated companies whose businesses rely on coal mining and the coal economy. PCA member companies produce over 90 percent of the bituminous coal mined annually in Pennsylvania. Accordingly, PCA has an immediate interest in the proposed rulemaking.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) administers the current remining program as it relates to bituminous coal with guidance from Chapter 87, Subchapter F of Title 25 of the PA Code. PCA is supportive of the proposed regulatory changes, specifically the incorporation of the EPA's Project XL program, which allows for in-stream monitoring and ultimately encourages additional remining.

However, in review of the proposed rulemaking, PCA would like to request that PA DEP, in an effort to be consistent with 40 CFR Part 434 Appendix B, correct § 87.212(4) to read:

"If at least 17 baseline observations were obtained, calculate the median (M) of all baseline observations. If n is odd, then M equals  $x_{(n/2) + (1/2)}$ . If n is even, then M equals  $0.5 * (x_{(n/2)} + x_{(n/2+1)})$ ."

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Hursh".

Rachel Hursh  
PA Coal Alliance  
Manger, Technical and Regulatory Affairs