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MSHA  
U.S. Dept of Labor

P.O. Box 47

PINKY VIEW, WV 25906

JUNE 17, 2003

Mine Safety & Health Administration  
Office of Standards, Regulations, & Variances  
1100 Wilson Blvd., Room 2313  
Arlington, Va. 22209-3939

Re: Coal Mine Dust Regulations

Mine Safety & Health Administration:

I oppose the proposed changes in the regulations that govern dust sampling and dust control in our coal mines. As the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) has noted, exposure to coal mine dust under the current regulations is still causing black lung and breathing impairment among working miners. Therefore, I believe that (1) **MSHA** should conduct unannounced dust sampling more frequently, (2) **MSHA** should use continuous monitoring devices as soon as they become available in order to more accurately determine actual dust levels within the mines, and (3) **MSHA** should reduce current coal mine dust levels (as recommended by NIOSH) until the harmful effect on the lungs of coal miners is stopped.

Respectfully,

*John Cline*

**AB14-COMM-118**   
**AB18-COMM-114**