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**From:** Meshoppen Stone, Inc. [mailto:mstone@epix.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 08, 2008 4:25 PM  
**To:** zzMSHA-Standards - Comments to Fed Reg Group  
**Subject:** "RIN 1219-AB41"

To Whom It May Concern:

In regards to your proposal to require mine operators to establish a standard regarding a drug and alcohol program which includes a written policy, employee education, supervisory training, alcohol and drug testing for miners that perform safety sensitive job duties and return to duty tests, I believe it to be a little extreme. Most metal, non-metal operations are two to four man operations. The cost of this program would be another needless expense.

Our biggest question to MSHA would be; what is your reasoning behind the new program. We have very few injuries and to date, no fatalities. I don't condone drug use or alcohol abuse. Our company does have an alcohol and drug program which is quite expensive. I don't believe small operators should be bothered with this.

I look forward to hearing from you with your thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,

William M. Ruark  
Meshoppen Stone Inc.

AB41-COMM-59
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