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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
333 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR, HARRISBURG, PA 17101

June 19, 2008

Honorable Kathleen A. McGinty, Chairperson
Environmental Quality Board
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street, 16th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: Regulation #7-400 (IRRC #2560)
Environmental Quality Board
Mine Opening Blasting

Dear Chairperson McGinty:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved the subject regulation today. Our order is enclosed and will be available on our website at www.irrc.state.pa.us.

We appreciate the joint effort that went into producing a regulation that meets the criteria and intent of the Regulatory Review Act.

Sincerely,

Arthur Coccodrilli
Chairman

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Enclosure

cc: Honorable Mary Jo White, Chairman, Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
Honorable Raphael J. Musto, Minority Chairman, Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
Honorable Camille George, Majority Chairman, House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
Honorable Scott E. Hutchinson, Minority Chairman, House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held June 19, 2008

Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
Nancy Sabol Frantz, Esq.
Karen A. Miller
John F. Mizner, Esq.

Regulation No. 7-400 (#2560)
Environmental Quality Board
Mine Opening Blasting

On August 17, 2006, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Environmental Quality Board (Board). This rulemaking amends 25 Pa. Code Chapters 77, 87, 88, 89 and 210. The proposed regulation was published in the September 2, 2006 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on May 15, 2008.

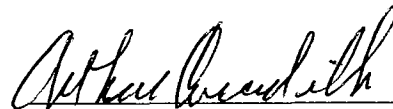
This regulation amends surface blasting requirements for mine openings in five existing chapters governing noncoal mining, surface mining of coal, anthracite coal, underground mining of coal and blasters licensing.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Board (52 P.S. §§ 1396.4b and 3311(e)) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

This regulation is approved.





Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman