
From: Scott Hartman [mailto:SHartman@hecla-mining.com]
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 11:45 AM
To: zzMSHA-Standards - Comments to Fed Reg Group
Subject: RIN 1219-AB70

2010 NOV 29 A 11:49

I have been a miner since 1979 and have the following comments regarding the ANPRM concerning the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of safe dams which can assure miners are protected from the hazards of dam failures:

Most if not all states I have worked in have well developed dam safety programs that address all of the issues raised.

MSHA should survey existing dam safety programs administered by states and/or other agencies and enter into MOU's where these programs are adequate. Developing and administering a dam safety program requires highly specialized and technical skills. MSHA has neither the expertise nor the resources to take on this important role and the government cannot afford unnecessary duplication.

A description for the State of Alaska dam safety program can be found at:

www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/water/dams then click on Guidelines for Cooperation with the Alaska Dam Safety Program for a detailed description of the dam safety program.

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AB70-COMM-10