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April 15, 2011

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Via Electronic and U.S. Mail
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MSHA
Ms. April E. Nelson, Acting Director
Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances
1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2350
Arlington, VA 22209

RE: RIN 1219-AB64; Proposed Rule for Lowering Miner's Exposure to Respirable Coal Mine Dust, Including Continuous Personal Dust Monitors

Dears Ms. Nelson:

The Illinois Coal Association (ICA) is a professional trade association representing coal producers in Illinois. All of our members will be impacted by the above-referenced Proposed Rule.

On April 8, 2011, MSHA responded to an October 20, 2010 FOIA request by the National Mining Association (NMA) for certain documents relevant to the Proposed Rule. The MSHA response did not include several documents that NMA believes to be relevant to the analysis of the Proposed Rule. Accordingly, NMA has appealed the exclusion of documents to the Solicitor of Labor.

The ICA joins NMA in requesting that MSHA extend the comment period on the Proposed Rule until: (1) the Solicitor has ruled on the appeal, and (2) for an additional sixty days if the relevant documents are released in order to provide sufficient time for review.

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Phillip M. Gonet
President

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