

FAX TRANSMISSION

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TO: \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE ATTENTION OF: \_\_\_\_\_

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FROM: Irene Estep

SUBJECT: RIN 1219 AB64

MESSAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

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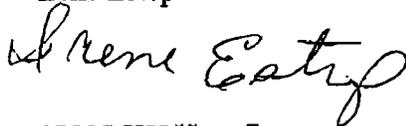
**COMMENT ON MSHA'S PROPOSED RULE TO LOWER  
MINERS' EXPOSURE TO RESPIRABLE COAL MINE DUST**

My name is Irene Estep. I live in Perry County Kentucky. My husband worked as a coal miner at Blue Diamond Coal Company. Where he sustained multiple injuries due to unsafe working conditions. One of those injuries was Black Lung.

The 1969 Coal Mine Act was intended to eliminate black lung by reducing the amount of dust that miners breathe. I think more should be done on this act so there will be less risk of black lung from working in the coal mines.

Due to Black lung many families rely on disability benefits to support their families. But due to the income they can not enjoy their life the way they would if they were working. This is due to the fact that their income is half of what it would be if they were still able to work. I encourage MSHA to do more to cut down on coal mine dust. This should be done soon as possible to protect our coal miners from black lung. So no future coal miners will have to endure the struggles that my husband and I had to go through due to black lung.

Irene Estep



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