



BRUCE WATZMAN
Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

November 22, 2010

Ms. Patricia Silvey, Director
Office of Standards, Variances & Regulations
Mine Safety & Health Administration
4015 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Ms. Silvey:

On behalf of the coal members of the National Mining Association (NMA) I am writing to request that the period for the submission of comments on the proposed rule for "Lowering Miners' Exposure to Respirable Coal Mine Dust, Including Personal Dust Monitors" (75 Fed. Reg. 64,412) be extended for 60-days.

The complexity and scope of the proposed rule warrants the additional time so all parties will have adequate time to undertake a thorough review of the proposal and develop comments to ensure that the final rule is protective of miner's health. As you are aware, revisions to the respirable coal mine dust control regulations have been under review for a number of years. The current proposal incorporates many elements of prior proposals and adds several new elements that require extensive examination. Extension of the comment period, for 60-days, will ensure that all parties have the opportunity to participate in this important regulatory proceeding.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Bruce Watzman'.