PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: 8/8/23, 8:11 AM **Received:** August 07, 2023

Status: Posted

Posted: August 08, 2023 Tracking No. II1-3pel-wszj

Comments Due: August 28, 2023

Submission Type: API

Docket: MSHA-2023-0001

Lowering Miners' Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica and Improving Respiratory

Protection

Comment On: MSHA-2023-0001-0002

Lowering Miners' Exposure: Respirable Crystalline Silica and Improving Respiratory Protection

Document: MSHA-2023-0001-1338

Comment from Miller, Robin

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General Comment

RIN 1219-AB36

I come from a family of miners, first from South Shields, UK and later from West Virginia. Most of the men died in their 40s or 50s.

This fact makes me sensitive to the fact that Black Lung is still a killer, but now it is known that it can be prevented. The culprit is silica. The solution is mine ventilation or dust elimination. Dust monitors should not be covered, and ventilation systems need to be in place at all times. If this is not the case, the fines and suspensions should be high and long and the public should hear about it in no uncertain terms.

Mines should do their own enforcement as well as welcome inspections regularly. Whistle blowers should not be punished, fired, or otherwise.

This is not 1910.