

From: Claudia Kirkpatrick [kirkclaudia@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2009 4:15 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Cc: kirkclaudia@gmail.com; ck02@andrew.cmu.edu
Subject: Beneficial Use of Coal Ash

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To: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

From: Claudia A. Kirkpatrick
3763 Orpwood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Date: December 21, 2009

Good Morning:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment on the DEP's proposal to establish regulations for the use and storage of coal ash. I am writing to support the development of such regulations, with enforcement.

Because coal ash contains very serious contaminants, including mercury, lead, and arsenic, it is crucial to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that the contaminants at each site be fully characterized. It is also crucial that the coal ash be completely isolated from surface and underground water. All coal ash sites must be monitored with sufficient frequency, and that monitoring must be continued over the long term, to assure compliance. In addition, any parties responsible for depositing coal ash must be required to establish sufficient funding, from the very beginning, for protection of the surrounding water supplies in case of any future pollution.

Stringent regulations will, thus, ensure the safety and health of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Claudia A. Kirkpatrick
Chair, Allegheny Group, Sierra Club