

Tate, Michele

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**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Katherine Hackney [hackneyk@att.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2009 10:21 AM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Subject:** RE: Beneficial Use of Coal Ash Proposed Rulemaking [25 PA. CODE CHS. 287 AND 290]

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DEC 23 REC'D

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dec 14, 2009

John Hanger

Dear Hanger,

Dear Secretary Hanger,

I have had cancer twice, and you probably will too, as one in 3 people will get it in their lifetime. It is not fun. Probable cause: toxins in our food and environment. Yes, you can get very short term financial gains by allowing coal ash in our drinking water (along with all the Marcellus poison) but all the backdoor deals and health risks in the world are not worth it. Water is not a renewable resource. I presume you are a Christian, as all our Pa politicians say they are. Think about this, then. Christ mentions greed and money more than any other topic. With All Sincerity, Katherine Hackney

Coal combustion waste (CCW) is contaminating water sources across America including sites in Pennsylvania. Throughout the guidelines that have been proposed there are phrases like, "at the discretion of", "with department approval", or "if the Department chooses." These phrases leave significant loopholes in the guidelines and should be removed. Standards in the proposed Chapter 290 regulations must be enforceable.

This toxic coal ash should be sealed with the use of composite liners and placement guidelines that ensure isolation from groundwater. These sites should be monitored quarterly for at least thirty years after ash placement is finished.

The rules should require that pollutant levels are fully monitored surrounding the placement site. And if a monitoring point shows higher levels of contaminants than prior to ash placement it should trigger a requirement to investigate the causes of those increases.

Also financial assurance should be posted by operators before permits are issued and maintained throughout required monitoring at a site in amounts sufficient to monitor and abate pollution from the ash. And the public should be permitted to participate in the entire permitting process.

Sincerely,

Ms Katherine Hackney  
557 Celeron St  
Pittsburgh, PA 15221-3202