

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held May 18, 2023

George D. Bedwick, Chairman
John F. Mizner, Esq., Vice Chairman
John J. Soroko, Esq.
Murray Ufberg, Esq.
Dennis A. Watson, Esq.

Regulation No. 7-554 (#3291)
Environmental Quality Board
Noncoal Mining Clarifications and Corrections

On February 25, 2021, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Environmental Quality Board (Board). This rulemaking amends 25 Pa. Code Chapter 77. The proposed regulation was published in the March 20, 2021 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a public comment period ending on May 4, 2021. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on April 13, 2023.


This rulemaking updates and clarifies the requirements for mining noncoal minerals in the Commonwealth by making several technical revisions. These amendments include allowing an increase in air blast level, extending the time to activate a permit from three year to five years, setting a threshold for the amount of material that may be extracted during exploration and identifying the circumstances when a permit revision is needed.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Board (52 P.S. § 3311(a)) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

This regulation is approved.




George D. Bedwick, Chairman