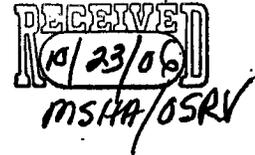


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**Pine Creek Coal Co.**  
P.O. Box 100 Rt. 25  
Spring Glen, Pennsylvania 17978  
www.pinecreekcoal.com



I am writing in reference to the proposed increases in fines for the mining industry. These drastic increases will have a devastating effect on small mine operators such as myself.

I am a processor of anthracite coal, and I employ nine men. The coal I buy to process comes from roughly fifteen different independent small mines employing less than fifteen men per mine, some as small as three men. I, and these mines cannot afford these huge increases. These increases will only cause our prices to go up and will result in some of these mines being forced to close. With our supplies as tight as they are, we cannot afford to loose any more mines. Larger operations can manage these increases, we simply cannot.

I think any reasonable agency, or person, would agree that a mine with five men paying the same size fines as a mine with five hundred men is just plain wrong.

I strongly encourage you to consider the circumstances the small mines face and reconsider these drastic increases in fines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert J. Klinger". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Robert J. Klinger

AB51-COMM-55