



November 21, 2019

NOTICE FOR APPROVAL APPLICANTS

Clarification of Approval Application Evaluation Process

On September 23, 2019, we sent notice to you and other current approval applicants about proposed changes for our approval application evaluation process. The primary change was to establish a new cancellation policy to streamline the processing of applications and allow new applications to be reviewed more promptly and to not extend the process indefinitely.

We received feedback suggesting to us that additional clarification was necessary. The primary concern expressed was that there was no opportunity for manufacturers to provide additional information in response to the discrepancies prior to cancellation of the application.

For approval reviews where minor discrepancies are identified, our staff will contact you to discuss necessary changes. We will determine a reasonable period of time, based on the nature of the discrepancies, to allow applicants to submit changes and modifications to correct discrepancies. Because the complexity of the applications vary, this time period will be determined on a case-by-case basis. If discrepancies are not corrected within the time period allowed, your application will be canceled.

We appreciate your feedback and look forward to providing the opportunity to all applicants to participate in the product approval process. Thank you for expressing your concerns and giving us the opportunity to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the application process and to work with you to improve the safety and health of miners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Ferlich".

Dennis Ferlich
Center Chief
MSHA Approval and Certification Center