Please help Pennsylvania get its fair share.

The federal legislation (SMCRA) designed to reclaim abandoned mine lands is falling short of its promise. Money earmarked for reclamation is being collected but not being spent. Much of the money being spent is going to states needing it least. Meanwhile, Pennsylvania and other eastern coal producing states have a multitude of serious abandoned mine problems going unaddressed. The President and Congress are using the Abandoned Mine Land Fund to help balance the budget instead of using it as intended by funding abandoned mine reclamation. So far, almost \$1.5 billion has been withheld from the states.

Pennsylvania alone has approximately \$15 billion worth of environmental problems caused by mining practices of the past. Current and future generations of taxpayers have been left with the bill of fixing these problems.

The resolution on the opposite page requests a release of the Abandoned Mine Land Fund and a proportionate distribution to those states needing it most. It requests that the SMCRA legislation be renewed past its 2004 sunset date. Please help Pennsylvania get its fair share by endorsing the resolution. Thank you.

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