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Comment On: MSHA-2024-0067-0001

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Ground Control for Surface Coal Mines and Surface Work Areas of Underground Coal Mines

Document: MSHA-2024-0067-0004

Comment from Jones, Kennedy

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General Comment

To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to propose adjustments to the plan regarding ground control for surface coal mines and surface work areas of underground coal mines (Docket No. MSHA-2024-0067). Ensuring mine stability and worker safety is critical. While the collection of information on ground control plans is necessary, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) should consider ways to streamline the process to reduce unnecessary burdens on mine operators. Allowing electronic submissions, providing standardized templates, and implementing a simplified attestation process for unchanged plans could improve efficiency without compromising safety.

Additionally, greater transparency in assessing these plans and the frequency of required updates would enhance compliance and effectiveness. I commend MSHA's commitment to safety and encourage the agency to consider these suggestions to balance regulatory oversight with practical implementation.