

**WHY THE SPRUCE MINE PUBLIC HEARING IN WEST VIRGINIA IS IMPORTANT
TO KENTUCKY**

by the Kentucky Coal Association

- EPA has chosen to revoke a permit from an operation that has been mining coal for more than three years.**
- The Kentucky Coal Association strongly believes that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is using the Spruce Mine revocation as part of its overall strategy to end coal production in the United States.**
- If the EPA can revoke this permit, the same action can occur here in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and will negatively impact both surface and underground mines.**
- Beyond ending coal production, EPA's action also will significantly chill future investments in coal mining nationally.**
- If the federal government can revoke this permit, which took more than a decade to receive, no business can be certain of their continued existence over unfair and targeted regulatory persecution.**
- Kentucky and West Virginia benefit greatly from two of the lowest kilowatt-per-hour utility rates in the nation because of our coal production. More than 90 percent of our electricity in these two states and half of the United States' electricity comes from coal.**