Companies hope Trump will bring opportunities for coal - The prospect of a president-elect who promised to bring coal back to prominence has mining companies in Northeastern Pennsylvania hoping that better times lie ahead.

Lawmakers push for rollback of federal coal mining regulations - One of Armstrong County’s largest coal mining companies and some Republican lawmakers are expecting the incoming GOP administration to strike down new rules aimed at reducing the environmental impact of coal mining on the nation’s streams.

Interior adopts controversial last-minute rule to make the coal industry cleaner - The Obama administration finalized a rule Monday morning that aims to protect thousands of miles of streams by forcing coal mining companies “to avoid mining practices that permanently pollute streams, destroy drinking water sources … and threaten forests,” officials said in a statement.

EPA to appeal court-ordered analysis of coal jobs lost – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to appeal a federal judge’s ruling that it must begin evaluating how many power plants and coal mining jobs are lost because of air pollution regulations.

Personnel change signifies Gov. Tom Wolf’s plan to seek a second term - Let’s call this personnel change what it is. Gov. Tom Wolf is unofficially announcing his decision to seek re-election to a second term of office.

With fewer agents, EPA cuts back on cases - Despite fears that environmental protections will relax under Donald Trump’s administration, fewer cases are being pursued by the Environmental Protection Agency now than at any time in the past 20 years.

As term ends, MSHA chief hopes for continuing progress on safety - The nation’s coal mines are headed for another record low year in workplace deaths, and the outgoing federal mine safety chief said he’s hopeful that mining companies will work with the incoming Trump administration to continue that progress.

PJM, Members Ready To Meet Winter Electricity Demand - PJM Interconnection, which manages the high-voltage power grid for 61 million consumers in 13 states and Washington, D.C., expects to have sufficient resources to meet forecasted demand for electricity this winter.

PJM Mobile App Shows Snapshot of Markets, Ops - PJM today announced the release of PJM Now, a mobile app that tracks PJM’s markets and operations in real time.

Year-In-Review: DEP Puts Miners Back to Work, Protects Air and Water and Kick-Starts Energy Economy in 2016 - Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell announced the following accomplishments by the agency in 2016.

Bringing back coal jobs - The turmoil in Washington over coal miners' health care and pensions is a perfect example of what is wrong in Washington.

Rick Perry, Ex-Governor of Texas, Is Trump’s Pick as Energy Secretary - President-elect Donald J. Trump plans to name Rick Perry, the former governor of Texas, to lead the Energy Department, an agency far more devoted to national security and basic science than to the extraction of fossil fuels that is Mr. Perry’s expertise.
**Company begins work on coal mine** - If all goes according to plan, a new coal mine will soon be operational in Cambria County near the intersection of routes 22 and 53, Rosebud Mining Co. officials confirmed.

**Trump Picks Scott Pruitt, Climate Change Denialist, to Lead E.P.A.** - President-elect Donald J. Trump has selected Scott Pruitt, the Oklahoma attorney general and a close ally of the fossil fuel industry, to run the Environmental Protection Agency, signaling Mr. Trump’s determination to dismantle President Obama’s efforts to counter climate change — and much of the E.P.A. itself.

**Communities struggling with decline of coal can’t wait any longer on RECLAIM Act** - Coal mining communities have put their people in the mines—and their lives at risk—to make the cheap fuel that powered American homes and industry for more than a century, but as the coal industry has declined, these communities are being left behind. We can’t let that happen.

**In West Virginia coal country, voters are ‘thrilled’ about Donald Trump** - Bill Nesselrotte owns a coal company that doesn’t mine coal anymore. Still, a few days each week, he straps on a backpack and pushes through the brush to collect jars of water from streams, ponds, wells and springs — samples to prove to the government that he’s not a polluter.

**Illinois passes sweeping energy bill with support for Exelon nuclear plants** - Both chambers of the Illinois General Assembly late on Thursday voted in favor of a massive energy bill that includes financial supports for two Exelon nuclear plants at risk of closing.