



NEWS RELEASE

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ARIPPA Lauds Coal Refuse Reclamation to Energy Industry Abandoned Mine Reclamation Efforts

CAMP HILL, PA – As the world celebrates Earth Day today, the Appalachian Region Independent Power Producers Association (ARIPPA) would like to acknowledge the ongoing efforts of the coal refuse reclamation to energy industry in reclaiming and restoring abandoned mine lands (AML) throughout the Appalachian region. ARIPPA applauds the industry and its many partners for their unrelenting commitment to environmental protection through this vital work.

ARIPPA plants in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia play an important role in cleaning up coal refuse piles scattered throughout these states. Not only do these facilities remove coal refuse piles, but they also eliminate the associated air and water pollution derived from AML. To date, the Pennsylvania facilities alone have remediated more than 256 million tons of coal refuse, improved or restored more than 1,200 miles of streams, and reclaimed more than 7,200 acres of AML in the state. In Virginia, one facility has completed ten reclamation projects, amounting to over 4 million tons of coal refuse reclaimed since the plant began operations in 2012. Furthermore, the single remaining facility in West Virginia remediates 530,000 tons of coal refuse annually and reclaims roughly 30 acres of land per year.

The ARIPPA member power plants stand ready to collaborate with the states, conservation districts, and watershed groups as they access the billions in federal AML funding available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law over the next decade. Together, these facilities and partners can continue to address the many remaining AML challenges these three states face.

Visit www.arippa.org to learn more about the coal refuse reclamation to energy industry. Examples of the positive environmental impacts of the many reclamation projects undertaken by these facilities is also available on our website.

Organized in 1989, ARIPPA is a non-profit trade association comprised of independent electric power producers, environmental remediators, and service providers located in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia that use coal refuse as a fuel to generate electricity. Utilizing circulating fluidized bed boiler technology to convert both anthracite and bituminous coal refuse into electricity, ARIPPA plants also provide unique multimedia environmental benefits by combining the production of energy with the removal of coal refuse piles and reclamation of the land for productive purposes.

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