

1.866.522.SACE
www.cleanenergy.org

P.O. Box 1842
Knoxville, TN 37901
865.637.6055

34 Wall Street, Suite 607
Asheville, NC 28801
828.254.6776

250 Arizona Avenue, NE
Atlanta, GA 30307
404.373.5832

P.O. Box 8282
Savannah, GA 31412
912.201.0354

P.O. Box 1833
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919.360.2492

P.O. Box 50451
Jacksonville FL 32240
904.710.5538

HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN PUBLIC COMMENTING: EPA'S COAL ASH PROPOSED RULES

When the executive branch of the federal government proposes new or changed regulations, the American people have the right to get involved by commenting on the proposed rules. This is a great opportunity to have your voice heard, and luckily, the process is simple! You can submit your comments online at a specially designed website, by email, by fax, by mail, or even by hand delivery to EPA.

No matter how you submit your comments, make sure that they are identified by the special docket number associated with this rulemaking. The docket number for this coal ash rule is: **EPA-HQ-RCRA-2009-0640**.

Once you have learned about the proposals for ash regulation and decided that you want to comment, you can either write up your own comments or see our draft comment letter below. In either case, here are the specifics on how to comment.

- **Through the internet**: go to www.regulations.gov and follow the simple instructions.
- **By Email**: Include your comments as an attachment or in the email's text, then email to rcra-docket@epa.gov. Include the docket number in the subject line. Note that internet submissions are anonymous but email submissions are not.
- **By Fax**: send to 202 566 0272 and make sure the cover sheet has the docket number.
- **By Mail**: Include two copies of your comments and send to:
Hazardous Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion
Residuals From Electric Utilities Docket
Attention Docket ID No EPA-HQ-RCRA-2009-0640
Environmental Protection Agency
5305T
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460.
- **Hand Delivery**: Walk two copies of your comments to the EPA in DC at Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20406. Be sure to go during normal business hours.

Feel free to use the sample letter on the next page as the basis for your comments. Make changes as you see fit, and remember to put in the date and sign with your own name.

**YOUR NAME
YOUR STREET ADDRESS
CITY, STATE ZIP**

DATE

The Honorable Lisa Jackson, Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code: 1101A
Washington, DC 20460

**Re: Submission of Comments on the Proposed Coal Combustion Residuals Rule,
Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-RCRA-2009-0640**

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I strongly support EPA's decision to regulate coal ash and I am writing to add my voice to the loud chorus in support of the Subtitle C option. As a resident of the Southeast, I know all too well about the dangers of coal ash. Residents of East Tennessee are only now starting to recover from the terrible spill at the Tennessee Valley Authority's Kingston coal plant. There is no way to guarantee the American people that a disaster like this will never happen again, but if coal combustion wastes are listed as "special wastes" under Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, we will be much better protected from a future disaster.

Subtitle C is far better than Subtitle D because it creates definite and enforceable rules. It is important for EPA to have direct oversight over the generation, storage, transportation, and disposal of coal ash. States have shown their inability to independently regulate coal ash and industry has show its inability to self-govern. These failures cannot be allowed to continue.

Perhaps most importantly, there is no dispute that coal ash is, in fact, hazardous as it contains many hazardous ingredients such as lead and mercury. The so called Bevill Amendment was written to give the fossil fuel industry special treatment by making sure that fossil fuel byproducts were not easily listed as hazardous wastes. This is a great way to protect a dying industry, but it is no way to protect the American people. Coal ash should no longer get special treatment. Coal ash is hazardous so it should be treated that way and regulated under Subtitle C and not like household garbage as it would be under Subtitle D.

While we watch a horrible tragedy unfolding in the Gulf of Mexico and ask ourselves how we could have prevented such a disaster, we should remember that this is exactly the kind of devastation that can happen when we overlook well-known dangers and we offer special exemptions and lax governance. Now is the time to do the right thing and help prevent any more toxins from pouring into our environment. Therefore, I strongly urge you to adopt the Subtitle C proposal for coal ash regulation.

Respectfully Submitted by:

YOUR NAME HERE