



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL: 1847

PRINTER'S NO: 2428

PRIME SPONSOR: Harhai

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2009/10	FY 2010/11
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):		
General Fund	\$0	\$0

OVERVIEW:

The Coal Refuse Disposal Control Act (Act 318 of 1968) provides that preferred sites shall be used for coal refuse disposal unless the applicant demonstrates to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) another site is more suitable based upon engineering, geology, economics, transportation systems and social factors and is not adverse to the public interest. The Act currently describes a preferred site as one of the following:

- (1) A watershed polluted by acid mine drainage.
- (2) A watershed containing an unreclaimed surface mine but which has no mining discharge.
- (3) A watershed containing an unreclaimed surface mine with discharges that could be improved by the proposed coal refuse disposal operation.
- (4) Unreclaimed coal refuse disposal piles that could be improved by the proposed coal refuse disposal operation.
- (5) Other unreclaimed areas previously affected by mining activities.

However, the Act also provides that if the adverse environmental impacts of the preferred site clearly outweigh the public benefits, the site shall not be considered a preferred site.

House Bill 1847 amends the Coal Refuse Disposal Control Act adding "an area adjacent to or an expansion of an existing coal refuse disposal site" to the list of preferred sites.

This legislation shall take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS:

Adoption of this legislation should have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds. According to the Department of Environmental Protection, this legislation will not cause the Department to incur any additional costs.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

DATE: August 4, 2009

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