

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1967 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY GABLER, SANKEY, METZGAR, ORTITAY, GREINER, DUNBAR, CAUSER, MASSER, BENNINGHOFF, BARRAR, HEFFLEY, MCGINNIS, WARD, MAHONEY, GROVE, GIBBONS, A. HARRIS, WARNER, ZIMMERMAN, SAYLOR, PYLE, JAMES, EVERETT, LONGIETTI, KORTZ, OBERLANDER, SNYDER, KNOWLES, ELLIS, MAHER, SCHLEGEL CULVER, HARHAI, READSHAW, CUTLER, PICKETT, MOUL AND FARRY, APRIL 7, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, APRIL 7, 2016

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 31, 1945 (P.L.1198, No.418), entitled,
 2 as amended, "An act providing for the conservation and
 3 improvement of land affected in connection with surface
 4 mining; regulating such mining; providing for the
 5 establishment of an Emergency Bond Fund for anthracite deep
 6 mine operators; and providing penalties," further providing
 7 for mining permit, reclamation plan and bond.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 4 heading of the act of May 31, 1945
 11 (P.L.1198, No.418), known as the Surface Mining Conservation and
 12 Reclamation Act, amended October 10, 1980 (P.L.835, No.155), is
 13 amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection to
 14 read:

15 Section 4. Mining Permit; Reclamation Plan; Bond; Temporary
 16 Cessation of Operation.--* * *

17 (k) (1) Before temporary cessation of operation for a
 18 period of thirty (30) days or more, an operator shall submit to

1 the department a notice of intention to temporarily cease
2 operation. The notice shall include a statement of the exact
3 number of acres affected in the permit area, the extent and kind
4 of reclamation of the areas and identification of the
5 backfilling, regrading, vegetation, monitoring and water
6 treatment activities which will continue during the temporary
7 cessation.

8 (2) Temporary cessation of operations does not relieve the
9 operator of the obligations to comply with the permit.

10 (3) Temporary cessation of operations shall terminate upon
11 either the resumption of surface mining activities or the
12 failure of the operator to submit an application for permit
13 renewal within at least one hundred twenty (120) days before
14 expiration of the existing permit.

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.