



Moshannon Creek Watershed Association
P.O. Box 701
Philipsburg PA 16866

George Cowfer
Junior Coal Contracting, Inc
2330 Six Mile Rd
Philipsburg PA 16866

February 23, 2026

Subject: Junior Coal Planned Remining on a Parcel on Sandy Ridge and Clarification from MCWA RE: 522 Petition Filed by a Former Watershed Organization and Pennsylvania American Water in 2012.

Dear Mr. Cowfer:

This letter is a response to inquiries sent by your attorney, Eric Rusnak, that provided background on Junior Coal's proposed remining project on a 40-acre parcel adjacent to the prior GFCC work on Sandy Ridge. He shared the details on the project's goals, which include eliminating the existing stripping pit, remining the A, B, and C coal seams, addressing pollution discharges to a tributary of Trout Run, removing dangerous highwalls, daylighting old deep mines, and reclaiming the site with required alkaline addition, all on JR Land Company property.

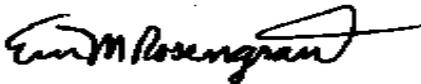
Here is our insight into questions about this project that were raised by PA DEP, Pennsylvania American Water, and others about the status of the Moshannon Creek Watershed Coalition and any related 522 petitions:

1. The first discussions about forming the Moshannon Creek Watershed Association (MCWA) occurred in 2019, and our organization incorporated in January of 2020. MCWA is aware that a prior watershed organization, named the Moshannon Creek Watershed Coalition (MCWC), existed from about the year 2000 until they disbanded in about 2014. MCWA has not had any discussions with the prior organization's leadership. Until a few weeks ago, MCWA was unaware that MCWC, along with Pennsylvania American Water, had filed a 522 petition in 2012 to declare what appears to be the entire Trout Run watershed as 'unsuitable for mining'.
2. MCWA does not presume to speak for Pennsylvania American Water. We do not know their reasons for their involvement in the petition filed in 2012.
3. MCWA has not filed any 522 petition (under 25 Pa. Code § 86) about the Trout Run watershed.

4. MCWA sees the Trout Run watershed as having varying conditions, with the lower watershed severely impaired and the upper watershed having much cleaner water. The unnamed tributary of Trout Run that receives water leaving the proposed 40-acre project is classified by PA DEP as an impaired stream due to 'acid mine drainage – metals' and 'acid mine drainage – siltation'. This tributary roughly parallels PA 970 downhill from the community of Sandy Ridge.

MCWA does not oppose Junior Coal's intention to remine and reclaim the specified 40-acre area on Sandy Ridge. MCWA has a remining policy and supports properly planned and executed source reduction projects to reduce the generation of abandoned mine drainage. Remining is a source reduction method that has the added benefit of paying for itself with the sale of the extracted coal. We recognize the potential benefits of properly addressing abandoned mine features, such as highwalls, deep mine discharges, and polluted runoff, which align with broader efforts to improve water quality in the Moshannon Creek watershed.

We hope this clears up any confusion that exists concerning the actions and positions of the existing Moshannon Creek Watershed Association in this matter. The information included herein is available to the public and can be shared with other interested parties.



Best regards,
Eric M Rosengrant
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