



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

January 6, 2016

Ms. Katherine Hetherington Cunfer
Citizens Advisory Council
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 8459
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8459

Dear Ms. Hetherington Cunfer:

I am pleased to deliver to you the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) *Assessment of the Effects of Subsidence (Act 54) Report 2008-2013*.

This assessment is the product of an internal, multi-bureau workgroup assembled to review the findings of the fourth Act 54 report which was prepared by the University of Pittsburgh pursuant to Section 18.1 of Bituminous Mine Subsidence and Land Conservation Act (BMSLCA). The assessment provides recommendations for changes and improvements to DEP's underground mining program to address findings of the fourth Act 54 Report and input received from citizens and the mining industry. Included in this assessment are comments made by the public and interested organizations which were collected through the Citizen's Advisory Council's public hearings related to the fourth Act 54 Report.

As with the original Report, we provide this assessment to the Governor, the General Assembly, and Citizens Advisory Council (CAC). Workgroup members and DEP management will deliver a presentation of the findings and recommendations at a forthcoming CAC meeting.

I trust that you will find the report informative. Copies of this assessment will be made available to the general public through DEP's website.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Quigley".

John Quigley
Secretary

Enclosure