

**Proposed Revision to Technical Guidance**  
**563-2112-656:**  
**Liners – Impoundments, Stockpiles and Coal Refuse Disposal Areas**

The Department is planning to make major revisions to this guidance that was last updated with only minor changes in 2011. The original guidance was published in December 5, 1997. The Department's focus for this major revision has been a pressing need to include capping requirements and update information regarding application review for liners and caps for large coal refuse disposal areas.

The revisions will include changing the scope of the document to focus on coal refuse disposal areas under 25 PA Code Chapter 90 and to include caps in terms of barrier layers. The references to lining of impoundments and stockpiles will be removed. While some specifications for liners still apply to those sites, they do not require capping.

Liners and caps are considered together as a means of preventing pollution to groundwater from precipitation that percolates through the material. The TGD will also include a section to address the regulations that require a system to prevent precipitation from encountering the refuse during periods of temporary cessation.

The purpose of the revised guidance will be to describe the appropriate type of liners/caps to use, their criteria for approval as part of a permit application, as-built testing requirements, and processes to address covering refuse during temporary cessation.

**Timeline:**

July 2020 – MRAB presented first draft

November 2020 – Publish as draft & receive public comments.

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021 – Publish as final.