Final Rulemaking:
Handling and Use of Explosives
(25 Pa. Code Chapters 210 and 211)

Environmental Quality Board Meeting
February 20, 2018
Purpose

• Seismic exploration
• Eliminate outdated requirements
• Provide consistency and clarity for the use of explosives
• Updates
Seismic Exploration

- Loaded hole security
- Mapping
- Product specifications
- Blast records
- Best technology detonators
- Location limitations
  - Mine sites
  - Buildings or other structures
Outdated Requirements

- Eliminate permits to purchase
- Eliminate permits to sell
- Allow more than 1 year for magazine license renewals
- Revise air blast regulatory limit
Updates

- Blasting activity application requirements
- Blast records
- Gases
- Highway precautions
- Seismographs and their use
- Blasting near utilities
Comments

• Seven commentators and IRRC
• Clarify some of the definitions
• Use of the words “toxic” and “noxious” for gases
• Signage for the blasting area
• Fees
• Potential conflicts with federal requirements
• Authority and process for civil penalties
• Definitions
  – Removed references to ATF terms
  – Eliminated the definition and reference to “nuisance”
  – Added a definition for “at-the-hole communication”
  – Revised the definition of “flyrock”
  – Added FMCSA Inspection
  – Explosives
  – Scaled distance
Revisions

• Signage for the blasting area
• Federal references
• Removed “toxic” and “noxious” relating to gases
• Removed new or increased fees
• Eliminated Proposed Subchapter J about Civil Penalties
Advisory Board Collaboration

• Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board recommendation
  – Jul 21, 2016

• Aggregate Advisory Board recommendation
  – November 2, 2016
DEP recommends that the Board adopt the final-form regulation for the handling and use of explosives.
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