



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

January 11, 2016

United States House
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Oppose H.R 1644 —Threatens Our Health and Our Waterways with Dumping of Toxic Mining Waste

Dear Representative:

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into national priorities. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

LCV urges you to vote NO on H.R. 1644, the Supporting Transparent Regulatory and Environmental Actions in Mining Act (STREAM Act), an awful bill that would block proposed safeguards that aim to reduce the health and environmental impacts of dangerous and destructive coal mining practices.

H.R. 1644 aims to stop or at least seriously delay the finalization of the Department of Interior's proposed Stream Protection Rule, which aims to better protect the drinking water of mining communities that is at risk of contamination from the dumping of toxic mining pollution. As one of the most damaging industrial activities in our nation, mountaintop removal mining has destroyed more than 2,000 miles of streams and over 500 mountains in Central Appalachia while also jeopardizing the health of nearby communities. The Stream Protection Rule will finally update federal rules that currently fall woefully short of preventing serious harm to the communities living in the shadow of mining operations.

We urge you to REJECT this dangerous legislation and allow the Stream Protection Rule to move forward in order to protect the drinking water of mining communities across the country. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2016 *Scorecard*. If you need more information, please call my office at (202) 785-8683 and ask to speak with a member of our government relations team.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President