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PENNSYLVANIA COAL COMPANIES AWARDED FOR EXEMPLARY SURFACE COAL MINE RECLAMATION

(Harrisburg, PA) The Pennsylvania Coal Alliance (PCA) recently recognized the efforts of several member companies who performed above and beyond the federal and state regulations for reclaiming coal mining sites to environmentally sound conditions with productive uses.

Pennsylvania continues to be a leader in reclamation efforts. Completed at no cost to the Commonwealth or taxpayers, the awarded sites cover 890 acres and include the reclamation of 50 acres of previously affected abandoned mine lands.

PBS/Corsa Coal of Friedens, PA received an award for the best overall reclamation for the completion of Paxton Strip Site in Somerset County. The project included reclamation of over 237 acres, half of which was reclaimed to prime farmland.

Reclamation Awards were also presented by county to companies with outstanding achievements in reclamation. Amerikohl Mining, Inc. of Butler, PA, was recognized for completion of reclamation in Armstrong, Butler, Clarion and Fayette Counties. Robindale Energy Services of Armagh, PA, was recognized for their reclamation work in Cambria County; and Corsa/PBS Coal was recognized for an additional completed reclamation project in Somerset County.

"PCA members companies have the expertise needed to address environmental impacts of the past, and a strong long-term commitment to environmental stewardship," said PCA Executive Director Rachel Gleason. "We commend their continued dedication to communities and the Commonwealth."

The award-winning sites were chosen in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Active and Abandoned Mine Operations using an evaluation process based on pre-mining condition, reclamation quality, the degree of difficulty and correction of environmental and safety hazards.

MEDIA CONTACT: Rachel Gleason, 717-233-7900

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