

**INCREASED DANGERS FROM COAL ASH DUMPS:  
New Data Show There Are Hundreds More Landfills and Ponds Than Previously Disclosed, Many  
of Which Lack Basic Protections Like Liners**

EPA has released information revealing the existence of hundreds of previously unknown coal ash dumps nationwide, just as Congress is considering adding secret language to the transportation bill that would prevent the EPA from ever setting federal regulations for coal ash.

**INCREASED THREATS FROM COAL ASH PONDS:**

- 451 previously undisclosed ponds. Industry previously disclosed that there were 710 coal ash ponds nationwide, but the new data show there are 1,161.
- Almost half of ponds are unlined. Of the 1,161 known coal ash ponds, almost half – 535 – are known to be unlined.
- 80% of ponds lack leachate collection systems. At least 933 of 1161 surface ponds lack leachate collection systems.



Nearly 1,700-Acre Little Blue Run Coal Ash Landfill in PA and WV (Oct. 23, 2011).

**INCREASED THREATS FROM COAL ASH LANDFILLS**

- 56 previously undisclosed landfills. EPA said in 2010 that there were 337 coal ash landfills nationwide, but the new data show there are at least 393.
- These include: 228 active landfills; 78 retired landfills (which no longer receive waste); and 50 planned landfills
- 73% of retired landfills lack liners. At least 54 of 78 retired landfills lack liners, and it is unclear whether the 23 that are lined have protective composite liners or weaker liners.
- 68% of retired landfills lack leachate collection systems. At least 53 of 78 retired landfills also lack leachate collection systems.
- 34% of active landfills lack liners. At least 77 of 228 active landfills lack liners, and it is unclear whether the 148 that are lined have protective composite liners or not.
- 46% of active landfills lack leachate collection systems. At least 106 of 228 active landfills (nearly half) lack leachate collection systems.

**DATA STILL REMAINS UNDISCLOSED**

- These numbers greatly underestimate the total universe of coal ash landfills and ponds because 38 plants claimed pond data was “confidential business information” (“CBI”) and 34 plants claimed landfill data was CBI; their information was not included in the attached EPA spreadsheets.

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