Addressing Member Concerns

Proposals regarding surface owners’ protection & compensation

West Virginia Farm Bureau
Addressing member concerns

Deeds should reflect mineral ownership.
Addressing member concerns

Surface owners should be notified in advance of any mineral extraction

– Notification at least fifteen days in advance of any entry onto land

– Absentee landowner should receive notification by certified mail

– Resident landowner should receive actual notice
Addressing member concerns

Comment period for DEP forms WW-2A and WW-2B notices should be increased from fifteen to thirty calendar days.
Addressing member concerns

Landowners should have the right to redeem mineral interests under their property if the mineral interest owner does not do so.
Addressing member concerns

Timber cleared from extraction site and access roads to site should be appraised by certified appraiser

– Landowner should be compensated by mineral extractor for two times the value of the timber

– Cleared timber should remain the property of the landowner
Addressing member concerns

Secondary roads leading to the extraction site should be inspected by WVDOH prior to and following the extraction for any damages

– Extracting entity should be liable for the proper share of repairs if damage is found
Addressing member concerns

Extraction sites should have on-site water treatment and reuse of water

– Decreases road wear/damage
– Improved safety
– Reduction of emissions
– Improved environmental footprint
Addressing member concerns

Improved sediment control to protect streams

– Critical for small streams to prevent flooding from accumulated sediment
Addressing member concerns

Extracting entity should be responsible to the landowner for the activities of any contractor employed to perform work at the extraction site, and for any damages caused by the contractor.
Addressing member concerns

Educational outreach programs on oil & gas issues conducted by WVU Extension Services should be continued

– Educated landowners will help compensate for shortage of inspectors
Addressing member concerns

Properly trained, competent landmen are crucial to the process.
Addressing member concerns

Adequate funding stream must be maintained to hire and train inspectors.
Addressing member concerns

Vacant positions on the Oil & Gas Inspectors’ Examining Board must be filled in a timely manner.