



January 14, 2026

The Honorable Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Ranking Member
House Committee on Education & Workforce
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member Scott:

Thank you for your letter to the United States Department of Labor (Department) regarding the Black Lung Self-Insurance Program.

The Department is committed to ensuring coal miners permanently disabled due to coal workers' pneumoconiosis ("black lung disease") and their survivors receive benefits to which they are entitled under the Black Lung Benefits Act. The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is evaluating¹ options relating to coal mine operators' self-insurance that reduce regulatory and financial burdens on American industry while ensuring protection for American coal miners and the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund.

If you have further questions or concerns, please contact the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs at OCIACongressionalNotification@dol.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James R. Macy".

James R. Macy
Director

¹ <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eAgendaViewRule?pubId=202504&RIN=1240-AA16>