On December 19, 2014, the US Environmental Protection Agency released a long-awaited decision on the regulation and toxicity of coal ash. EPA’s decision is a gift to the fossil fuel energy industry.

- The EPA has deemed toxic coal ash “non-hazardous.” However, the EPA never claims that coal ash is harmless.
- Coal ash will be considered “solid waste.”
- The EPA recommendations have no teeth; there will be no federal enforcement of the regulations. It’s up to individual states and communities to enforce the law, and states are not required to adopt the rules.
- Old, abandoned sites are not subject to the recommendations.
- Although EPA recommends using more accurate methods to test the coal ash for toxicity other than the “Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure” (TCLP), it is not required.
- There are minimum design and siting standards in EPA’s rule. Existing North Carolina regulations require some of the standards proposed by EPA—neither of which adequately protect public health or the environment.

What you can do:

1. Locate your nearest landfill
2. Find out if they will take coal ash
3. Alert your community
4. Organize against coal ash dumping

For more information, contact:

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NO COAL ASH DUMPING IN SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS!