## Alpha Natural Resources 2014 – Environmental & Community Impacts

## WHEREAS:

In Alpha Natural Resources' initial Sustainability Report, Fueling Progress 2011, the company reports the water quality compliance rate in general, but offers no specifics on total water withdrawn, how often testing was conducted, chemicals and elements included in tests, or the percentage of water recycled or reused.

In a January 2010 research paper entitled "Mountaintop Mining Consequences", twelve environmental scientists state "Our analyses of current peer-reviewed studies and of new water-quality data from WV streams revealed serious environmental impacts that mitigation practices cannot successfully address. Published studies also show a high potential for human health impacts". (Science 8 January 2010: Vol. 327 #5962 pp 148-149)

In its March 2011 report on "The Effects of Mountaintop Mines and Valley Fills on Aquatic Ecosystems of the Central Appalachian Coalfields", the U.S. EPA found that mountaintop mines and valley fills lead to the permanent loss of springs and small streams, concentrations of persistently elevated chemical ion levels downstream, degraded water quality, and selenium concentrations that have caused toxic effects on fish and birds. (EPA/600/R-09/138F, page 1)

A 2011 study titled "The association between mountaintop mining and birth defects among live births in central Appalachia, 1996-2003" revealed that birth defect rates for six of seven types of defects, including circulatory/respiratory, central nervous system, musculoskeletal, urogenital and gastrointestinal, were significantly higher in mountaintop areas compared to non-mining areas. (Ahern MM, Hendryx M, Conley J, Fedorko E, Ducatman A, Zullig KJ, 2011)

Recent published peer-reviewed scientific research has revealed significant possible associations between MTR mining and disparities in birth defects (Ahern, 2011), mortality (Hendryx, 2009; 2011a), cardiovascular disease (Esch & Hendryx, 2011), cancer (Hendryx, 2011b), mental health (Zhang, 2008), and overall health-related quality of life (Zullig & Hendryx, 2011), further suggesting that MTR mining is a contributing factor to poor health outcomes.

Organizations such as the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) offer tools on assessment, mapping, and measurement of an organization's operations on water.

**Resolved:** Shareholders request a report, prepared at reasonable cost within six months of the 2014 annual meeting, omitting confidential information, on the company's efforts to reduce environmental and community impacts associated with its Appalachian mining

operations, and how those efforts may reduce legal, reputational and other risks to the company's finances. The report should include complete, detailed information based on GRI performance indicators:

- Percentage and total volume of water recycled and reused.
- Total water discharge by quality and destination.
- Total weight of waste by type and disposal method.
- Identity, size, protected status, and biodiversity value of water bodies and related habitats affected by the reporting organization's discharges of water and runoff.
- Percentage of Alpha's Appalachian operations where assessments have been done on the impact of our operations on local communities and a description of engagement and remedial development programs
- A description of significant actual & potential negative impacts on local communities.