



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR

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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING SENATE BILL 226 OF THE 2023 REGULAR SESSION

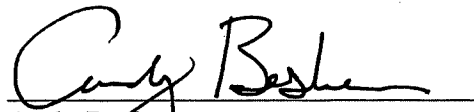
I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

Senate Bill 226 of the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

I support speeding up decisions on environmental permitting applications under the Clean Water Act and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. However, Senate Bill 226 creates a real and significant threat that the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will take over Kentucky's permitting process, because if the federal EPA believes any of the Commonwealth's permitting is contrary to federal requirements of the Clean Water Act that federal agency can take control of the process. Kentucky businesses will be much worse off with the federal EPA controlling the permitting process instead of the state Energy and Environment Cabinet.

For these reasons, I am vetoing Senate Bill 226.

This, the 24th day of March, 2023.



Andy Beshear
Governor

Mary Ann Erol
Deputy Clerk Senate

10:14 am 3/24/2023