



State of West Virginia

WV Office of Miners' Health, Safety & Training

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INDUSTRY NOTICE

October 1, 2026

Kratom - Update to earlier January 20, 2026 industry notice regarding Kratom. On September 30, 2026, the Board of Coal Mine Health and Safety filed and put out for public comment proposed amendments to W. Va. Code of State Rules § 36-22-1 (Rule Governing No Act Permitted Endangering Security of Mine; Search for Intoxicants, Matches, Etc.). The proposed amendments would add Kratom as a prohibited intoxicant. As such, no person may bring Kratom onto a mine site or mine work area or be intoxicated on Kratom while at a mine site or mine work area. The proposed amendments would also set forth that a positive urine test for Kratom is reasonable cause to prohibit a person from entering a mine site or mine work area due to intoxication.

Kratom use is known to produce stimulant and opioid effects on the user, as well as possible psychotic symptoms, such as hallucinations and confusion. Its use by certified miners is potentially a mine safety hazard.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G. Frank Foster".

G. Frank Foster

Director, West Virginia Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training