



# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

## *Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy*

Washington Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1100 Bank Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219-3638  
(804) 692-3200 FAX (804) 692-3237  
[www.dmme.virginia.gov](http://www.dmme.virginia.gov)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 30, 2020

Contact: Tarah Kesterson (276) 523-8146

Cell: (276) 356-3405

E-mail: [tarah.kesterson@dmme.virginia.gov](mailto:tarah.kesterson@dmme.virginia.gov)

## **Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's Big Stone Gap and Lebanon Offices to Limit Office Hours Due to COVID-19**

**BIG STONE GAP-** The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's (DMME) Big Stone Gap and Lebanon offices will limit office hours beginning Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>. This is in response to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases.

The agency requests that customers first use online services for payments or call to make a credit card payment. For customers that do not have that option, we will receive and receipt those payments on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Certifications needing renewed will be extended through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Coal miners and companies needing proof of certifications can find those on our [website](#) by searching their name.

Coal and gas companies needing to make payments should do so through DMME's accompanying e-forms systems. If you do not have access to your e-forms, please request a username and passwords. Gas companies can request access on this DMME [website](#). Coal companies can do the same via our mined land reclamation team's [website](#).

The work of our agency will continue during this time. DMME employees will be working in the field and from home and available via phone and email. An [emergency contact list](#) is available on DMME's website. A complete staff directory is available [here](#).

DMME reduced staffing beginning March 13<sup>th</sup> and is taking further action to ensure the health and safety of our employees as much as possible. All changes will be evaluated on April 30<sup>th</sup> to see if these actions should be extended.