JOBS VERSUS THE ENVIRONMENT. THAT’S A DEBATE RAGING IN FRANKLIN COUNTY. AND RESIDENTS ARE HAVING THE CHANCE TO VOICE THEIR OPINIONS IN A SERIES OF PUBLIC HEARINGS.

PATRICK HARWOOD HAS THE LATEST....
SOME 200 RESIDENTS ATTENDED LAST NIGHT'S PUBLIC HEARING ABOUT WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE MORE GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT OF DYNAMITE MINING.

SUPPORTERS OF USING EXPLOSIVES TO REMOVE COAL FROM MOUNTAINTOPS SAY IT CREATES MORE FLAT LAND FOR FARMS AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT THAT CAN HELP THE ECONOMY.

BUT OPPONENTS SAY THE EXPLOSIONS CAUSE DEBRIS THAT FLOODS NEARBY STREAMS....
SOTS FULL--------

:30 (4 SOUNDBITES)
SOTS (4) TOTAL: :30
IN:  I’M NOT AGAINST...
OUT:  OUR PLANET

IN:  THESE JOBS HAVE NOT..
OUT:  MOUNTAINTOP MINING

IN:  IT’S TIME TO START...
OUT:  THE ENVIRONMENT

IN:  MOUNTAINTOP JOBS....
OUT:  PROVIDES JOBS

STAND UP CLOSE

THE ENVIRONMENTAL

PROTECTION AGENCY WILL

HAVE THE FINAL SAY ON

WHETHER THERE WILL BE

GREATER REGULATION OF THIS

TYPE OF SURFACE MINING. THE

E-P-A’S DECISION IS EXPECTED

NEXT MONTH. REPORTING

FROM FRANKLIN COUNTY, I’M

PATRICK HARWOOD.

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