



AMERICAN COALITION FOR CLEAN COAL ELECTRICITY

September 20, 2012

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton:

I am writing to express our strong support for H.R. 3409, the "Stop the War on Coal Act," because of the economic damage Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations are causing.

For generations, coal has been an essential source of domestic energy because it is affordable, reliable and increasingly clean. Coal-fueled electric plants have invested \$100 billion to reduce emissions of major air pollutants. This investment has reduced emissions by over 85 percent per unit of electricity generated. Moreover, coal-fueled plants are expected to spend at least \$80 billion more by 2015 to install state-of-the-art clean coal technologies to reduce emissions further.

Despite this success story, EPA continues to pile unnecessary and expensive new regulations on top of each other, while ignoring their harmful economic impact. One bad EPA rule is challenging enough, but the combined impact of all the EPA rules is devastating to the coal industry and burdensome to a struggling economy. Unfortunately, EPA can be expected to write more bad regulations unless Congress forces the agency to write sensible rules.

So far, more than 31,000 megawatts of coal-fueled generating capacity spread across half the country are being forced to close because of EPA policies. These forced closures are roughly equivalent to eliminating the

entire electricity supply of 43 individual states, including Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Virginia.

Power plant closures will cause major job losses, especially in many smaller communities. For example, Avon Lake, Ohio, is home to a coal-fueled electric generating plant that is being forced to shut down because of EPA regulations. Shuttering this plant will eliminate jobs at the plant, cut tax revenues for the city, and threaten essential city services. On a broader scale, an analysis last year by National Economic Research Associates found that EPA rules could destroy 180,000 jobs per year and increase electricity prices by double digits in almost half the U.S.

We appreciate the work of the sponsors and committees in crafting this legislation. I look forward to working with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to put an end to EPA's war on coal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Duncan".

Mike Duncan
President and CEO