

# United Mine Workers of America

CECIL E. ROBERTS  
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



TELEPHONE  
(703) 291-2420  
FAX (703) 291-2451

UNITED MINE WORKERS' HEADQUARTERS  
18354 QUANTICO GATEWAY DRIVE, SUITE 200

**Triangle, VA**

22172-1779



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Dear Representative:

On behalf of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), I am encouraging your support for the *Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015* (H.R. 1734). This bill is similar to legislation previously passed by the House of Representatives with bipartisan support during the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress and demonstrates consensus regarding the proper regulatory framework for the management of coal combustion residuals (CCRs).

The *Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015* (H.R. 1734) is key to appropriately balancing Federal government rules with state permit programs while protecting public health, the environment, and most importantly over 316,000 jobs of those in the coal mine all the way to end users of products such as concrete and wallboard (drywall).

H.R. 1734 addresses several important areas of CCRs while recognizing the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recent final rule setting the minimum statutory requirements for state permit programs.

Your constituents can be assured enacting the *Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015* allows states to make their permit programs even more protective than the minimum requirements and the EPA can review the program at any time to ensure it meets the minimum statutory requirements.

H.R. 1734 is thoughtful, common sense, bi-partisan legislation. I urge you to support the *Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015* so we can begin allowing states to take effective steps to resolving the regulatory uncertainty surrounding CCRs while protecting jobs, public health, and the environment.

Sincerely,

Cecil E. Roberts