



AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY

April 14, 2015

Dear Energy and Power Subcommittee Chairman Ed Whitfield:

On behalf of more than two million Americans for Prosperity activists in all 50 states, I write in support of the Ratepayer Protection Act. As introduced, your legislation includes a number of provisions to empower states and protect American ratepayers and energy consumers as they navigate the so-called Clean Power Plan.

The Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rule on power plants will force states to cut an average of 30 percent of their carbon emissions. The proposed rule would have huge impact on jobs and economic growth. A Heritage Foundation study found it would cost anywhere between 300,000-1,000,000 jobs, \$2.5 trillion in lost GDP, and \$7000 of total income loss per person. This would affect people who work in the coal industry as well as for businesses in surrounding industries. The proposed rule will also affect energy affordability and reliability for American families and businesses

Given the concerning impact of this far-reaching proposal, it's important for states to protected themselves. Your legislation would extend the deadline for states having to submit an implementation plan under the new rule until all judicial review of the rule is finalized. Also, it would also allow states to opt out of complying with the EPA plan should a state's governor, in consultation with other relevant state agencies, find that the rule has an adverse effect on retail, commercial, or industrial ratepayers or the reliability of the state's electricity system.

AFP is proud to support the Ratepayer Protection Act and similar efforts to empower states in standing up against the EPA's attempt to takeover of the electricity market. I urge your colleagues to support its passage. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner
Vice President of Government Affairs
Americans for Prosperity

Americans for Prosperity® (AFP) is a nationwide organization of citizen leaders committed to advancing every individual's right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFP believes reducing the size and scope of government is the best safeguard to ensuring individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFP educates and engages citizens in support of restraining state and federal government growth and returning government to its constitutional limits. AFP has more than 2.8 million members, including members in all 50 states, and 33 state chapters and affiliates. More than 90,000 Americans in all 50 states have made a financial investment in AFP or AFP Foundation. For more information, visit www.americansforprosperity.org. Americans for Prosperity does not support or oppose candidates for public office.

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