



The Honorable Ed Whitfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2184 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sanford Bishop
U.S. House of Representatives
2407 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Morgan Griffith
U.S. House of Representatives
1108 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Collin Peterson
U.S. House of Representatives
2204 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Whitfield, Rep. Griffith, Rep. Bishop, and Rep. Peterson,

On behalf of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), I write to you in strong support of your legislation, H.R. 2042, the Ratepayer Protection Act of 2015.

NECA is the nationally recognized voice of the \$130 billion electrical construction industry that brings power, light, and communication technology to buildings and communities across the U.S. Our organization and our 119 local chapters are dedicated to enhancing the industry through continuing education, labor relations, safety codes, standards development, and advocacy.

Our 4,500 electrical contractors are greatly concerned that the proposed carbon regulations on power plants present a significant threat to American jobs and the economy. One has to look no further than the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's analysis of their own rule to see that the proposal would force the closure of up to 49 gigawatts of coal-fired power plant capacity—equivalent to 15 percent of all nationwide coal capacity.

Your legislation addresses the many concerns created by the rule in a balanced and reasonable manner, restoring certainty for businesses while giving states a greater say in the regulatory process. It would rightly allow states to opt out of complying with the implementation plan, as required by the rule, should a state find that the rule would have an adverse effect on retail, commercial, or industrial ratepayers or the reliability of the state's electricity system.

The Ratepayer Protection Act is a commonsense solution that would not only uphold the spirit and intent of the Clean Air Act, but also serve to prevent disruption to the affordable and reliable electricity that provides the backbone of the American economy. Thank you for taking a strong leadership role in introducing this legislation and we urge all Members of Congress to vote in support of H.R. 2042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marco A. Giamberardino". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Marco A. Giamberardino
Executive Director, Government Affairs