

United Mine Workers of America

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INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



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Dear Representative:

On behalf of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), I am requesting that you support the *Coal Residuals and Reuse Management Act of 2013* (H.R. 2218), bipartisan legislation that reflects a consensus regarding the proper regulatory framework for the management of coal combustion residuals (CCRs).

H.R. 2218 accomplishes several important objectives. The bill:

- Establishes a non-hazardous designation for CCR's thus ensuring their continued beneficial use in products such as Portland cement and wallboard (drywall);
- Applies groundwater protection standards set and approved by EPA; and
- Ensures that the minimum federal requirements established by the legislation for the disposal of CCRs are implemented through enforceable permits issued by the states filling a statutory gap in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Allowing states to manage CCRs as nonhazardous waste with federal "backstop" authority to enforce compliance standards strikes a reasonable balance between protecting public health while supporting coal mining, utilities, construction and manufacturing jobs. Under H.R. 2218, the public can have confidence that an effective regulatory program will be implemented at CCR facilities throughout the country. In addition, the public can rest assured that a facility not meeting proper environmental standards will be closed.

The *Coal Residuals and Reuse Management Act of 2013* (H.R. 2218) is effective legislation to resolve the regulatory uncertainty surrounding the management of CCRs while protecting jobs and the environment. I respectfully request your support for H.R. 2218.

Sincerely,

Cecil E. Roberts