



September 20, 2012

National Taxpayers Union Vote Alert

NTU urges all Representatives to vote “YES” on H.R. 3409, the “Stop the War on Coal Act of 2012.” This legislation will halt costly regulations imposed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), bringing much needed accountability to our energy policies.

Recent coal-mine layoffs, combined with mine and coal-fired power plant closures have only exacerbated our persistently high unemployment and economic struggles. The challenges facing the coal industry are largely the result of increasingly burdensome EPA regulations that drive up energy prices, inflicting higher costs on struggling energy producers, manufacturers, and consumers alike.

H.R. 3409 contains two major reforms in particular that will help rein in the EPA’s power grab. Title II would block the EPA from implementing an economically damaging regime of greenhouse gas regulations under the auspices of the Clean Air Act, thereby protecting taxpayers from the EPA’s backdoor “cap-and-trade” scheme. It does so by reestablishing Congressional authority over energy policies, keeping the power to tax out of the hands of unaccountable bureaucrats at the EPA.

Title III would create a committee to analyze the cumulative and incremental economic impact of the EPA’s regulatory policies on global competitiveness, manufacturing, energy prices, and jobs, thus ensuring more thoughtful deliberation of EPA rules. An accurate, robust cost-benefit analysis would prevent the EPA’s damaging Utility MACT rule from moving forward, saving hundreds of thousands of jobs the EPA seems willing to throw away in pursuit of an unachievable emission standard.

Affordable energy is the cornerstone of a solid economy, and unless Congress acts quickly to curtail the EPA’s excesses, jobs across every sector will continue to be at risk.

Roll call votes on H.R. 3409 will be included in our annual Rating of Congress and a “YES” vote is considered the pro-taxpayer position.

If you have any questions, please contact
NTU Federal Affairs Manager Nan Swift at (703) 683-5700
