

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

December 13, 2013

Honorable Ed Whitfield
2184 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1701

Honorable Joseph Manchin
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative Whitfield and Senator Manchin:

On behalf of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), I am pleased to inform you of our support for the draft legislation you have circulated dealing with pending Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) New Source Performance Standard (NSPS) regulations for greenhouse gases at new and existing fossil fuel electrical generation plants.

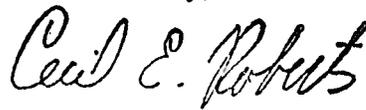
The UMWA is concerned that the EPA has proposed an emission rate limit for new coal generation plants that requires technology that has not been commercially demonstrated in base load coal plants. Furthermore, EPA has based this requirement on coal generation plants that are still under construction and have yet to produce one kilowatt of electricity.

The Edison Electric Institute estimates that over 60 gigawatts of coal generation will close between now and 2015. Most of those losses can be attributed to EPA's recent Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) regulation that will take effect in 2015. The UMWA is very concerned about the impact the proposed NSPS regulation for existing plants scheduled for release next June will have on the remaining fleet of coal plants, and more importantly, on UMWA members' jobs and their communities.

The EPA has consistently overlooked or ignored the impact the loss of jobs in the coal mining, utility and transportation sectors will have on rural coal field communities as it develops and implements these regulations. As jobs disappear, how do we continue to provide pensions and health care miners and others worked a life time to earn? How will the loss of these jobs impact the local tax base, school systems and health care facilities? UMWA contracts alone pump billions of dollars annually into these communities through our wages, pensions and health care. If that disappears, there will be nothing to replace it.

The UMWA looks forward to working with you both to move this legislation forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cecil E. Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cecil E. Roberts

cc: Daniel J. Kane, International Secretary-Treasurer
Steve Earle, International District 12 Vice President
Cory Hicks
Allison Busbee
Michael Pape
Erin Burns
Jan Brunner