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STATE OF ALABAMA

September 20, 2022

The Honorable Deb Haaland
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Haaland:

Please accept this letter as a statement of my support for approval of the federal coal lease application #ALES-55797 made by Warrior Met Coal (Warrior). This application, which is currently under review by your department, would permit Warrior to mine 24 million tons of metallurgical (met) coal on federal land in Alabama.

As you are likely aware, met coal is a component used for steel production and is not thermal coal, which is used for energy generation. This distinction is important as met coal is not subject to the recent re-instatement of the Obama Administration's coal lease ban. In fact, Warrior is dedicated entirely to mining non-thermal met coal, and its highly efficient longwall operations in Alabama supply exports of premium met coal to metal manufacturers around the world.

In addition to supporting the exportation of clean and efficient met coal mining products, approval of this application will help support jobs and the economy. Warrior's west Alabama mine directly supports hundreds of high-paying jobs with an average annual wage of more than \$90,000. Its production also supports jobs at the Port of Mobile, where Warrior is the largest customer. This lease would also generate hundreds of millions of dollars for the State of Alabama, the federal treasury, and the Port of Mobile, collectively.

As Governor, supporting high-wage jobs and bolstering the economy are among my top priorities, as is the responsible stewardship on Alabama's tremendous natural resources. To this end, I fully support the approval of Warrior Met Coal's lease application. And I thank you for your consideration of the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kay Ivey
Governor