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The Honorable Tim Murphy
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce

Dear Mr. Murphy,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before your subcommittee in Washington D.C. and now the opportunity to answer some further questions.

In answer to The Honorable Tim Murphy:

1. As you have had time to reflect on your hearing testimony, do you have anything you wish to clarify or to elaborate relating to your testimony or in response to issues discussed at the hearing?
 - a. I would like to add that since I testified in Washington one of the 3 large coal mines in my community has shut down completely. Laid off employees are now scrambling to find ways to support their families without having to go on unemployment.
2. Have you or anyone you know been able to attend one of EPA's public listening sessions this Fall, during which EPA is attempting to solicit ideas and input from the public and stakeholders about 'the best Clean Air Act approaches to reducing carbon pollution from existing power plants?' If yes, please specify the date and location of that session. If you will not be able to attend one of EPA's ongoing public listening sessions, do you have any questions or feedback on this topic that you would like to take a moment now to share with EPA?
 - a. My flight from Washington D.C. back to Denver was too late for me be able to attend the EPA public listening session in Denver, but I have several friends that travelled across the state of Colorado to attend.
2. What would higher electricity costs mean to people living in your community and surrounding communities? What do higher energy prices mean for manufacturing?
 - a. As I stated in my testimony, I am from a clean coal producing community, not a manufacturing community. I am on the board of directors of our local rural electric co-op and our largest load demand, by far, is the coal mines themselves. So even if

these coal producers could find a market, their cost of production is increasing dramatically. And higher electricity costs for residents of an already economically depressed community are difficult to pay.

In answer to The Honorable Rene Ellmers:

1. While the ash from coal combustion is a waste by-product, I know that it provides great benefit with concrete mix designs – supporting the development of higher strengths and better performance. My understanding is that despite the efforts of EPA to attempt to continue to permit such beneficial use of fly ash in their new ruling, the concrete industry remains concerned about liability risks associated with the handling and use of what will now be declared a hazardous material. Could you address these liability concerns and your personal perspective on the impact of this ruling on beneficial use of fly ash, if any?
 - a. I have no expertise or experience with the use of fly ash in concrete mix designs, but I know the results of reduced markets for our coal. It is devastating to our community.

2. Many believe the impact of EPA regulation of CO₂ through the CAA will have a more significant negative impact on rural communities. Rural consumers use more coal fired generation (in many cases natural gas pipelines are not nearby) and coal reserves are close, readily available, thus more economical to use. Rural utilities including electric cooperatives built those plants for the right reasons. Rural communities produce coal so jobs will be impacted, a previously cheaper source of fuel will be more difficult to use and more expensive. It's a double whammy. Can you explain the residual effect this will have on agriculture, small business and the tax base (schools, local government services) of these local rural communities?
 - a. The elimination of coal mining in my area will all but kill agriculture in my area. Historically both industries support the infrastructure necessary to sustain our local community. Commercial agriculture in my area, both organic and conventional, is being replaced by “boutique” gardens whose emphasis is on popular culture, not production. Consequently locally owned small businesses and our local schools are dwindling. Even “boutique” businesses are failing because there is not a general community to support them.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify before your subcommittee and this opportunity to speak to some further questions.

Sincerely,
Olen Lund