

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 22, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama  
The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As Representatives of the State of Ohio, we write today to express our concerns with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed rule to regulate carbon dioxide from new electricity generating sources. This New Source Performance Standard (NSPS) virtually ensures that no new coal-fired power plants will be built in the United States again due to the extremely high economic costs of feasible technology required to meet these unrealistic standards. The great State of Ohio receives nearly 80% of its power from coal fired power plants, and this proposed rule will endanger our economy and grid reliability.

Like you, we care deeply about preserving, protecting, and conserving our natural resources. There is no reason that we cannot continue to reduce emissions while growing our economy by taking advantage of our God-given resources. Unfortunately, Carbon, Capture, and Sequestration is not economically feasible at this time and would potentially bankrupt any utility company that would try to build such a plant. Until this technology is proven and economically feasible, the proposed NSPS violates the spirit of the Clean Air Act.

This rule unfairly targets the coal and coal utility industries and the tens of thousands of hard working Ohioans that rely on these industries for their direct employment. Ohio produces over 24 million tons of coal per year, and has over 11.5 billion tons of economically recoverable coal. Our State cannot afford to eliminate coal from the energy mix used to power our economy. Coal is the most affordable, most reliable, and most efficient form of energy currently in use.

You have also publicly spoken about the EPA's plans to propose a new rule under the Clean Air Act to regulate carbon dioxide released from existing electric power generation plants. We urge you to prevent the EPA from issuing similar standards that would force our existing power plants to shutter operations. Ohio is home to over 25 coal fired power plants, although that number is decreasing because of the EPA's actions, and any new rule that would force the shutdown of these plans could be catastrophic to Ohio's economy. Ohio workers are the world's best, but they cannot keep up with China and India if Ohio's manufacturing base is handicapped by being forced to use more expensive and less reliable energy than our competitors. This is exactly what will happen if the EPA is allowed to go forward with these rules.

We are proud that Ohio has been a bright spot economically for our nation over the past few years. But, this has happened in spite of the harmful regulations coming from Washington, D.C., and is largely due to our Governor's leadership and his pro-growth policies. However, these gains are in jeopardy as the EPA moves forward with these economically devastating rules. We respectfully ask that you stop the EPA from finalizing the NSPS as proposed, and direct the EPA to propose an economically realistic rule for existing power plants. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Johnson

David P. Jice

Fred R. Wenzel

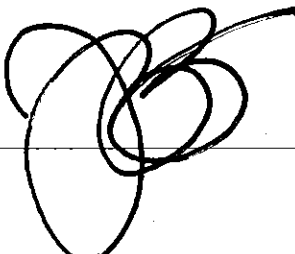
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