

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 15, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Mr. President:

We want to thank you for the incredible impact your policies have had on reviving the energy industry throughout the United States and especially in Wyoming. After eight years of President Obama's devastating war on coal and other fossil fuels, we could not be more proud to serve with you as you keep your campaign promises to remove strangling regulations on our coal industry and recognize that our fossil fuels are national treasures. Your policies have set us on a path towards the kind of economic renaissance we know is possible, and they are bringing jobs and economic growth back to communities across Wyoming and the nation.

We are writing to you, however, to express our strong concern and objection to proposals now being made that would advantage eastern Appalachian coal at the expense of our Wyoming Powder River Basin coal. Specifically, we strongly oppose a proposal by Governor Justice of West Virginia to provide \$4.5 billion in subsidies to support eastern coal producers by providing a \$15 per ton subsidy to utilities that purchase eastern coal instead of our western coal. Mr. President, you more than anyone recognize that the devastation in our coal communities, and the harm caused to the reliability of our power grid, has been caused by Obama policies that distorted our energy markets. We strongly urge you not to take actions, such as adopting the subsidy policy proposed by Governor Justice, that would repeat the mistakes of the last eight years. Now is the time to remove distortions in our energy markets. We should not be imposing new ones.

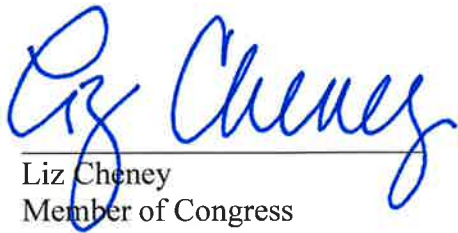
Wyoming Powder River Basin coal is the best, cleanest-burning coal in the world. Our state produces roughly forty percent of the coal mined in this country and in 2016 more than 170 million tons of Wyoming coal was shipped to power plants east of the Mississippi. Providing a significant monetary incentive for power plants to purchase eastern coal will come at the expense of coal operations in Wyoming and other western states. The best way to help coal miners

throughout the country is by continuing the regulatory relief you and your administration have provided that will allow American coal to compete in a free market.


You will find no state in the nation where your support is stronger than in our home state of Wyoming. This is largely because you have been such a friend to coal. It would be devastating for our coal miners and their families if your administration chose to pursue policies that harmed them by distorting our energy markets. We know there are many additional policy steps underway at the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy and elsewhere that will truly benefit the coal industry nationwide and we will work diligently to provide whatever assistance we can to facilitate the right kind of policy choices.

Again, we want to thank you for all you have done to support the coal industry in Wyoming and across the country. We look forward to working together as we continue to put our energy industry and our nation back on the right track.

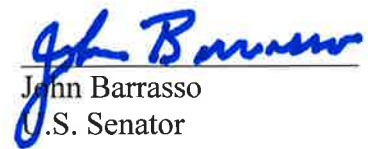
Respectfully,



Liz Cheney
Member of Congress



Michael B. Enzi
Mike Enzi
U.S. Senator



John Barrasso
U.S. Senator

cc: Secretary Pruitt, Secretary Zinke, Secretary Perry