

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 12, 2021

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Secretary Granholm:

We write in support of renewal of the National Coal Council's (NCC) charter, which must be renewed by November 20, 2021. The NCC is a Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) that provides valuable recommendations and insights to your office on coal policies and technologies. The NCC is a talented and multifaceted organization of coal producers and consumers, carbon researchers, academics, environmentalists, and policy experts. It is our understanding that the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management has proposed to decline to recharter the NCC.

FACs formally advise the executive branch, but their reports are read and relied upon more widely. We are grateful to the NCC for the analysis, research, and policy recommendations it provides. The NCC publishes reports on a variety of coal and carbon ore-related subjects to the Secretary. Comprised of nearly 125 members, the NCC is essential to advising the Department and other stakeholders on policy opportunities for coal. Over the last four decades, the NCC has been an excellent resource for lawmakers, helping to inform our approach to energy and manufacturing policy.

As global coal consumption is projected to increase, it is essential that the United States remains a leader in advancing coal and carbon related technologies. National Economic Council Director Brian Deese recently said, "The global nature of climate change also provides an opportunity for U.S. industry to help others meet their climate targets. We were once the arsenal of democracy for the world during World War II. We can again be an arsenal for the world dealing with climate change."¹

The NCC provides the Department with the tools and information it needs to ensure America's carbon management technologies are cutting edge and are deployed around the world. America's leadership in advancing coal and carbon-management technologies will have a profound impact on meeting global climate targets, while allowing emerging economies access to reliable, affordable energy.

¹ The Atlantic Council, "*The Biden White House plan for a new US industrial policy.*" June 23, 2021.
<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/commentary/transcript/the-biden-white-house-plan-for-a-new-us-industrial-policy/>

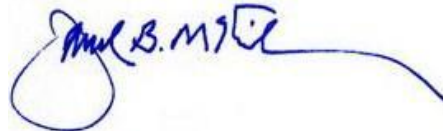
Denying newly mined coal a position in the domestic energy and manufacturing mix will come at a serious cost, both here at home and around the world. A politically driven rejection of understanding the benefits of newly mined coal and carbon research today kill thousands of jobs and innovation. It will leave our children and children around the world without the tools they need to both meet electricity demand and manage carbon.

We strongly encourage you to renew the charter before November or reconstitute the NCC with the same aims of advancing coal policy, technology, and markets, including for new coal production for environmentally responsible uses including energy production and innovative new carbon products and materials.

Sincerely,



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Mike Braun
United States Senator



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator



Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Steve Daines
United States Senator



John Hoeven
United States Senator



James Lankford
United States Senator



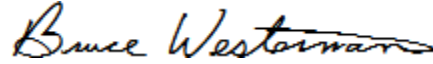
Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator



Mitt Romney
United States Senator



Todd Young
United States Senator



Bruce Westerman
Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources



Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress



Mike Bost
Member of Congress



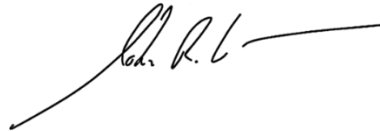
Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress



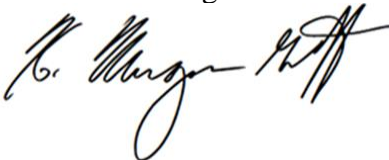
Liz Cheney
Member of Congress



Tom Cole
Member of Congress



John Curtis
Member of Congress



H. Morgan Griffith
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress

John Joyce, M.D.
Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

Mike Kelly
Member of Congress

Carol D. Miller
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Alex X. Mooney
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Greg Pence
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Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress