

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 19, 2012

The Honorable John McHugh
Secretary
United States Army
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 5665
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary McHugh and Secretary Salazar,

There are some in Washington who would prefer that companies were prohibited from exporting coal from our shores and their objections have been vocal and causing delays and confusion. This is a troubling demand; one that negatively strikes our fragile economy and creates enormous uncertainty in the industry. Not unexpectedly many of these objectors are the same groups and individuals who also oppose the use of coal in manufacturing and electric generation.

Therefore, in recognition of the positives to our economy and for the working men and women of America, we are requesting that you take the necessary steps to assure the efficient and expeditious approval of permits necessary for the construction of new coal export facilities and the expansion of existing ones in the United States.

Coal has been the fastest growing energy source globally over the past decade and demand will continue to grow by over 50 percent over the next fifteen years. The reasons for the continuing rise in coal energy are not hard to see. Global urbanization, industrialization and innovation are driving an unprecedented demand for electrification—much of which is coal based--and infrastructure build-out requiring massive amounts of steel, cement and other materials—most of which is coal dependent.

With the largest coal reserves in the world, the U.S. is strategically positioned to participate broadly in the expanding seaborne coal market. Last year, the U.S. exported 107 million tons of coal, a 30 percent increase over 2010 and the highest levels since 1991. U.S. coal exports made a positive addition of more than \$16 billion to our balance of trade, provided revenues to communities across the American heartland, and generated tens of thousands high-wage coal, railroad, barge, port and support jobs throughout the mine-to-market supply chain.

Coal export infrastructure projects scheduled for the East, West and Gulf coasts will create tens of thousands more construction and permanent jobs across America. However, if the U.S. is to fully participate in the globally competitive seaborne coal market, we need a timely and efficient review process for permits and authorizations necessary to commence construction of new and expanded facilities. Delays will jeopardize our competitive position and sacrifice the more than 5,000 jobs the International Trade Administration estimates are supported by each \$1 billion in exports.

U.S. coal exports will also allow the developing world to continue its forward march toward energy access so vital to sustain global economic growth. According to the International Energy Agency, fully

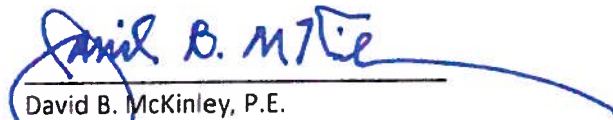
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half of the projected reduction in global poverty will be driven by coal. And, as these nations grow, so will their demand for all U.S. products and services.

We have a unique opportunity to boost the U.S. role as a global leader in seaborne coal trade. This creates tens of thousands of high-wage jobs, contributes positively to our balance of trade and raises the standard of living globally. Coal exports are poised to make a substantial contribution to the National Export Initiative goal of doubling exports over the next five years. To achieve this goal, coal export infrastructure projects must receive priority and timely attention. We cannot squander this opportunity with self-imposed trade barriers from delays and inefficient permit processing of coal export infrastructure projects. This is why we request that you direct your agencies to expedite their consideration of permits for coal export facilities.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

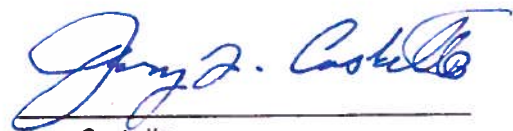

David B. McKinley, P.E.
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Collin Peterson
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Harold Rogers
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Tim Holden
Member of Congress

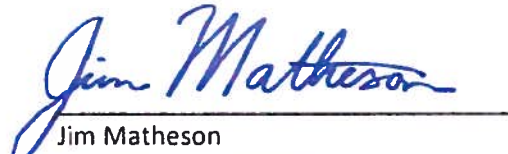

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Jerry Costello
Member of Congress

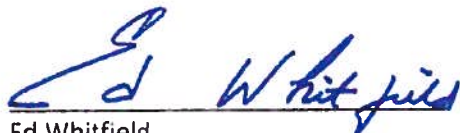
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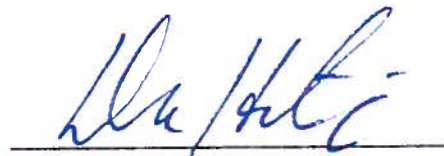
Jim Matheson
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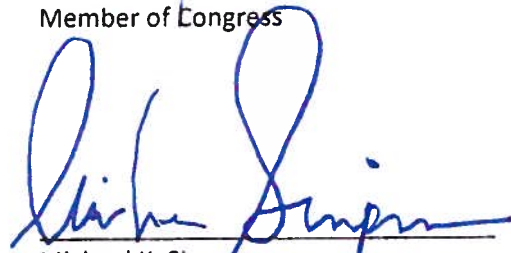
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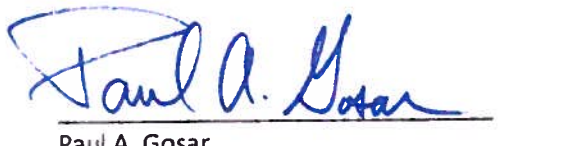
Mark Critz
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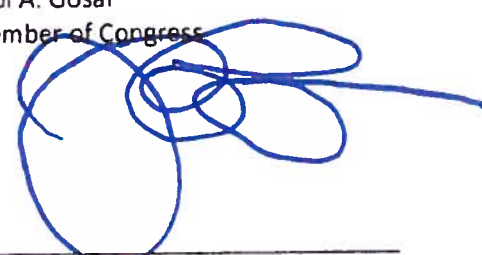
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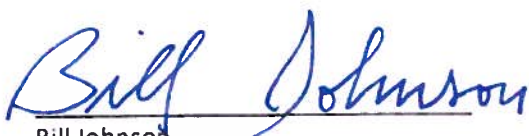
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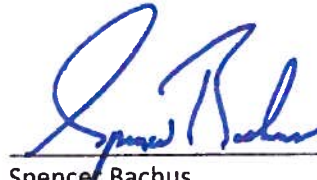
Tim Scott
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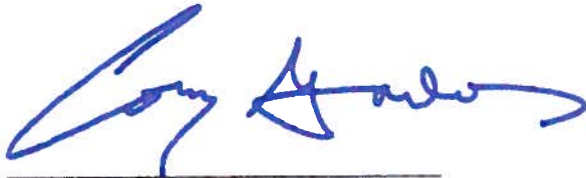
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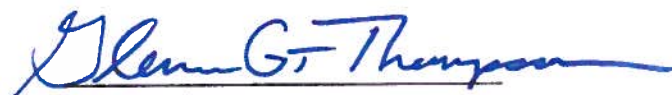
Denny Rehberg
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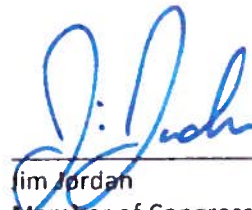
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Mac Thornberry
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Glenn "GT" Thompson
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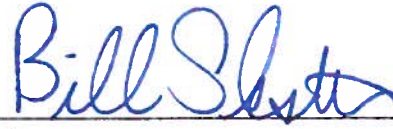


Jim Jordan
Member of Congress

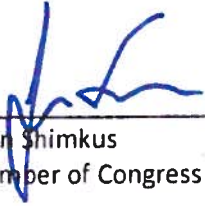
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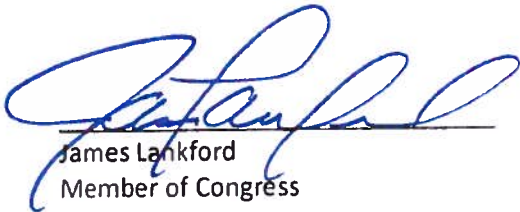
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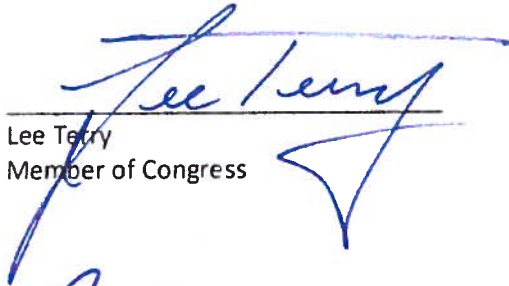


Steve Stivers
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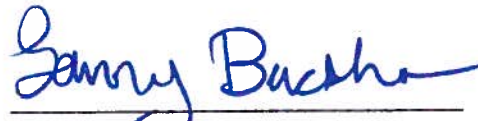
Lee Terry
Member of Congress



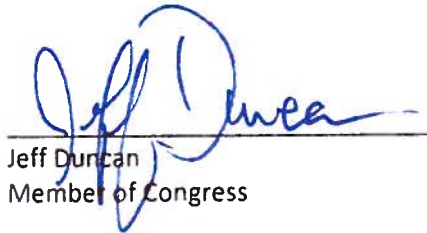
Alan Nunnelee
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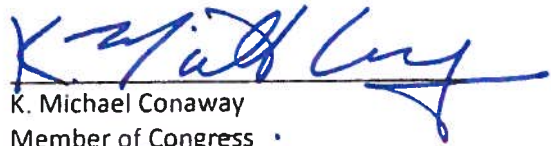
Francisco "Quico" Canseco
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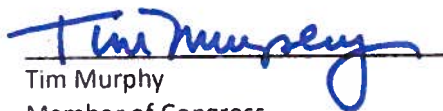
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Jeff Duncan
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K. Michael Conaway
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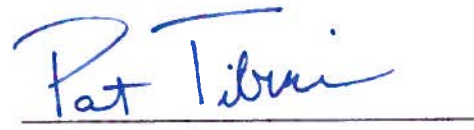
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