



## Partnership for a Better Energy Future

June 17, 2015

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The Partnership for a Better Energy Future (the Partnership), a coalition of business organizations representing over 80 percent of the U.S. economy, writes in strong support of H.R. 2042, the Ratepayer Protection Act of 2015, a bipartisan bill sponsored by Representative Ed Whitfield (R-KY).

Established in January 2014, the Partnership's fundamental mission is to promote an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy that ensures the continued availability of reliable and affordable energy for American families and businesses. The Partnership totals 177 members, which include national organizations as well as state and local associations in 36 different states. All are united by widespread concerns that proposed carbon regulations on power plants—as well as EPA's broader GHG regulatory agenda—present a significant threat to American jobs and the economy.

These threats are well-documented. For example, a recent study by NERA Economic Consulting found that EPA's proposed "Clean Power Plan" would impose between \$366 billion and \$479 billion in compliance costs, which would be passed along to businesses and consumers in the form of double digit percentage electricity rate increases in more than 40 states. EPA's own analysis shows that the proposal would force the closure of up to 49 gigawatts of coal-fired power plant capacity—equivalent to 15 percent of all nationwide coal capacity.

States, which would be responsible for implementing EPA's proposal, have detailed widespread shortcomings with the pending rule. Officials from more than two dozen states have asked the EPA to withdraw its proposal, citing concerns such as higher energy costs, threats to reliability and lost jobs. Officials from more than two dozen states have stated that EPA's proposed rule goes well beyond the agency's legal authority under the Clean Air Act, and more than a dozen states have already joined in a lawsuit against the rule.

The Ratepayer Protection Act addresses these concerns in a balanced and reasonable manner, restoring certainty for businesses while giving states a greater say in the regulatory process. The legislation allows the judicial review process to conclude before requiring states to develop implementation plans, and prevents states from being forced into implementing the rule if doing so would have significant adverse impacts on ratepayers.

These are commonsense solutions that would serve to uphold the spirit and intent of the Clean Air Act and prevent disruption to the affordable and reliable electricity that provides the backbone of the American economy. We urge all members to vote in support of H.R. 2042.

**Partnership for a Better Energy Future Membership**

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| Action 22 Southern Colorado                            | Midwest Electric Cooperative Corporation        |
| AFFORD Group   | Midwest Food Processors Association Inc.        |
| Agricultural Council of Arkansas                       | Minnesota Chamber of Commerce                   |
| Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute | Mississippi Energy Institute                    |
| Alabama Automotive Manufacturer’s Association          | Mississippi Manufacturers Association           |
| Alabama Coal Association                               | Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry       |
| Alaska Chamber of Commerce                             | Montana Chamber of Commerce                     |
| American Coke and Coal Chemicals Institute             | Monroe Chamber of Commerce                      |
| American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity          |   |
| American Farm Bureau Federation                        | Montana Coal Council                            |
| American Foundry Society                               | Montana Contractors’ Association                |
| American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers            | Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association     |
| American Knife Manufacturers Association               | Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce           |
| American Petroleum Institute                           | National Association of Home Builders           |
| American Road and Transportation Builders Association  | National Association of Manufacturers           |
| American Waterways Operators                           | National Cattlemen’s Beef Association           |
| Ames Chamber of Commerce                               |   |
| Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce                     | National Marine Manufacturers Association       |
| Associated Builders and Contractors                    | National Mining Association                     |
| Associated Builders and Contractors of Wisconsin       | National Oilseed Processors Association         |
| Associated Equipment Distributors                      | National Rural Electric Cooperative Association |
| Associated Industries of Florida                       | National Tooling and Machining Association      |
| Associated Industries of Missouri                      | Natural Gas Supply Association                  |
| Association of American Railroads                      | Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry         |
| Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives, Inc.   | Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation                 |
| Automotive Recyclers Association                       | Nebraska Power Association                      |
| Balanced Energy Arkansas                               | Non-Ferrous Founders’ Society                   |
| Balanced Energy for Texas                              | North American Die Casting Association          |
| Baltimore Washington Corridor Chamber                  | North Carolina Chamber                          |
| Bettisworth North Architects and Planners              | North Carolina Energy Forum                     |
| Billings Montana Chamber of Commerce                   | Ohio Cast Metals Association                    |
| Bismarck Mandan Chamber of Commerce                    | Ohio Chamber of Commerce                        |
| Brick Industry Association                             | Ohio Coal Association                           |
| Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce                        | Ohio Manufacturers’ Association                 |
| Business Council of Alabama                            | Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc.          |

California Cotton Ginners Association  
California Cotton Growers Association  
California Manufacturers & Technology Association  
Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry  
Colorado Mining Association  
Consumer Energy Alliance  
Copper and Brass Fabricators Council  
Council of Industry of Southeastern New York  
CropLife America  
Dallas Regional Chamber  
East Feliciana Chamber of Commerce  
Electric Reliability Coordinating Council  
Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance  
Exotic Wildlife Association  
Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Forging Industry Association  
Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce  
Foundry Association of Michigan  
Georgia Association of Manufacturers  
Georgia Chamber of Commerce  
Georgia Motor Trucking Association  
Georgia Railroad Association  
Greater Burlington Partnership  
Greater Houston Partnership  
Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Omaha Chamber  
Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce  
Gulf Coast Lignite Coalition  
Illinois Coal Association  
Illinois Manufacturers' Association  
INDA: Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry  
Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas  
Independent Petroleum Association of America  
  
Indiana Cast Metals Association  
Indiana Chamber of Commerce  
Indiana Manufacturers Association  
Industrial Minerals Association – North America  
Institute for 21st Century Energy

Oklahoma Railroad Association  
Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce  
Partnership for Affordable Clean Energy  
  
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business & Industry  
Pennsylvania Coal Alliance  
Pennsylvania Foundry Association  
Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association  
Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association  
Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association  
Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association  
Portland Cement Association  
Precision Machined Products Association  
Precision Metalforming Association  
Printing Industries of America  
Railway Supply Institute, Inc.  
Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute  
San Diego East County Chamber  
Siouxland Chamber of Commerce  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council  
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce  
South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association  
SW Louisiana Economic Development Alliance  
SPI: The Plastics Industry Trade Association  
State Chamber of Oklahoma  
Styrene Information & Research Center  
Tempe Chamber of Commerce  
Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Texas Aggregates and Concrete Association  
Texas Association of Business  
Texas Cast Metals Association  
Texas Cotton Ginners' Association  
Texas Mining and Reclamation Association  
Texas Poultry Federation  
  
Texas Railroad Association  
The Chamber of Reno, Sparks and Northern Nevada  
The Fertilizer Institute  
The Siouxland Initiative  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Valve Manufacturers Association of America

International Liquid Terminals Association  
Iowa Association of Business and Industry  
Kansas Chamber of Commerce  
Kentucky Coal Association  
Kerrville Area Chamber of Commerce  
Lignite Energy Council  
Lincoln Employers Coalition  
Lincoln Independent Business Association  
  
Longview Chamber of Commerce  
Louisiana Association of Business and Industry  
Louisiana Propane Gas Association  
Lubbock Chamber of Commerce  
Metals Service Center Institute  
Michigan Manufacturers Association  
Michigan Railroads Association

Virginia Chamber of Commerce  
Virginia Coal and Energy Alliance  
Virginia Manufacturers Association  
Western Agricultural Processors Association  
West Virginia Coal Association  
West Virginia Chamber of Commerce  
Wisconsin and Minnesota Petroleum Council  
Wisconsin Cast Metals Association  
Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group  
Wisconsin Independent Businesses  
Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce  
Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association  
Wyoming Chamber Partnership  
Wyoming Mining Association