

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

December 19, 2014

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

We write to express our concerns regarding the proposed rule announced by the Environmental Protection Agency on June 2, 2014 and entitled “Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units.” This proposal is an unprecedented attempt by the EPA to change the way we generate, transmit and consume electricity in the United States by asserting new regulatory authorities over state electricity decision-making.

This unprecedented proposed rule would require states to submit individual or regional energy plans to be approved by EPA in order to achieve the agency’s predetermined carbon dioxide emissions targets for each state. To comply with the rule, EPA directs states to consider including in their plans, and to make federally enforceable, a broad range of activities relating to a state’s electricity sector. EPA specifically directs states to consider renewable energy standards, generation dispatch changes, co-firing or switching to natural gas, construction of new natural gas combined-cycle plants, transmission efficiency improvements, energy storage technology, plant retirements, expanding renewables like wind and solar, expanding nuclear, market-based trading programs, and demand-side energy efficiency and conservation programs. Under the rule, EPA would also have the ability to impose its own alternate federal energy plan on a state in the event EPA did not approve a state’s plan. We agree that states should be free under their own laws to pursue these types of energy policies and activities within their own borders, but it is not the role of the EPA to exercise ultimate authority over a state’s electricity system.

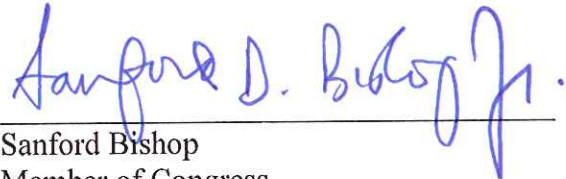
The continued affordability and reliability of our electricity supplies is critical to our nation’s future economic growth, job creation, and to all American households and businesses. Due to market factors and existing environmental requirements, significant power plant shutdowns are already underway across the country, and these closures raise concerns about the continued reliability of the grid and electricity rates even in the absence of EPA’s recently proposed rule. Under the proposed rule, EPA projects there would be additional power plant retirements and electricity rate increases. Were this to occur, these additional retirements and rate increases would further threaten electricity reliability and drive up energy costs for consumers, including the elderly, poor, and those on fixed incomes, at a time when over 50 million Americans are currently living in poverty.

Although the details of this proposed rule are still being considered by all stakeholders, the proposal threatens to impose huge burdens and challenges on states and higher costs on consumers. While our views on the statutory authority for carbon dioxide regulations vary, we are all concerned that this rule is simply unworkable as proposed and, if finalized, would effectively give EPA control over a state's generation, supply and consumption of power. Accordingly, we respectfully ask that you direct the EPA to withdraw its proposed rule as soon as practicable.

Sincerely,



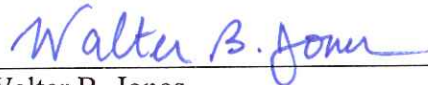
Ed Whitfield  
Chairman, Energy and Power Subcommittee




Sanford Bishop  
Member of Congress



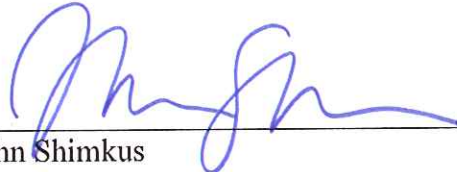
Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones  
Member of Congress



Tim Murphy  
Member of Congress



John Shimkus  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



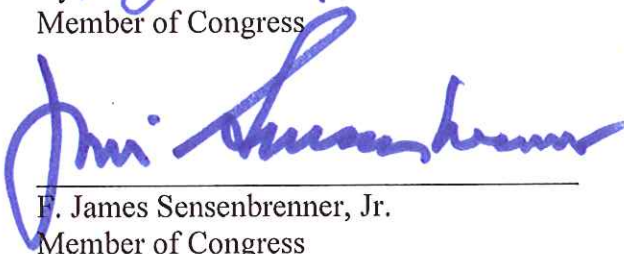
Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Member of Congress



Cynthia Lummis  
Member of Congress



Mick Mulvaney  
Member of Congress

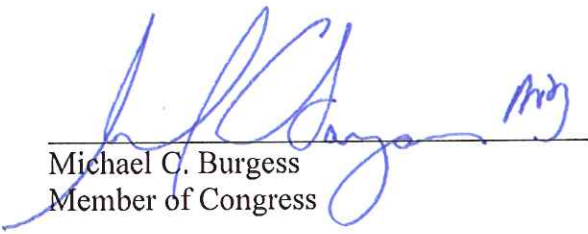
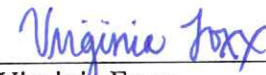

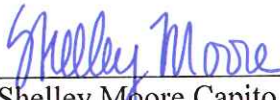
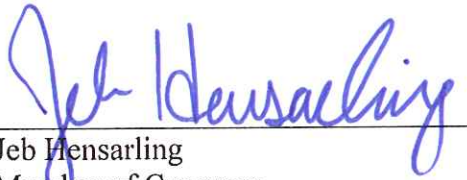

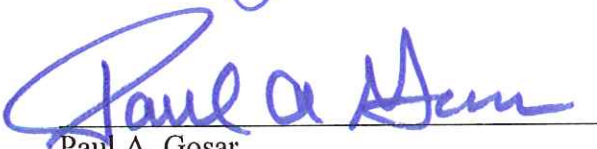

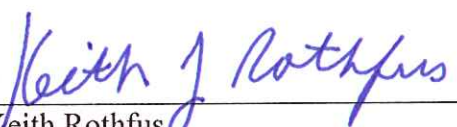
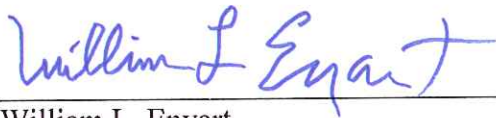
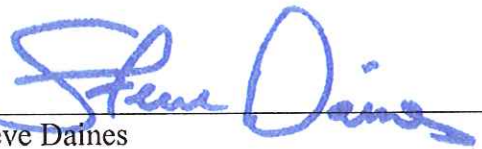
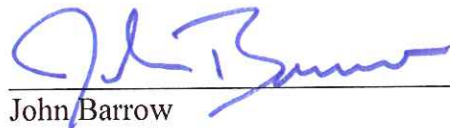




F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.  
Member of Congress



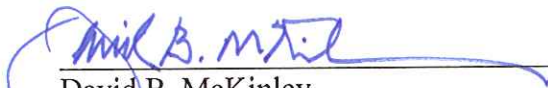
Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress



  
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Shelley Moore Capito  
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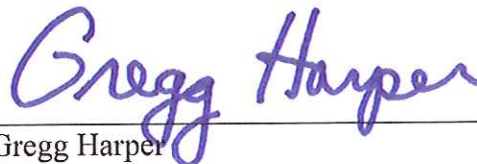
Nick J. Rahall, II  
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Pete Olson  
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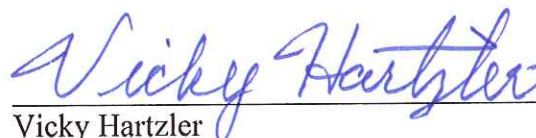
Glenn Thompson  
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Larry Bucshon  
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Kay Granger  
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Vicky Hartzler  
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Kevin Cramer  
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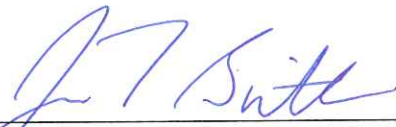
Bill Flores  
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H. Morgan Griffith  
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Chris Collins  
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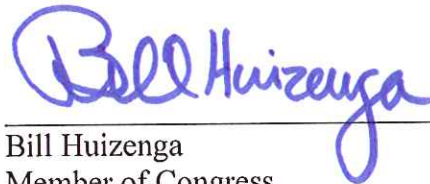
Jason T. Smith  
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David Schweikert  
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Sam Johnson  
Member of Congress



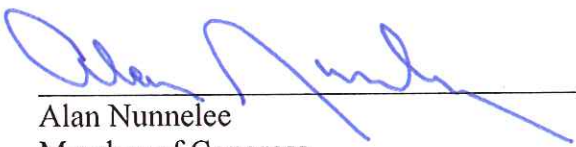
Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



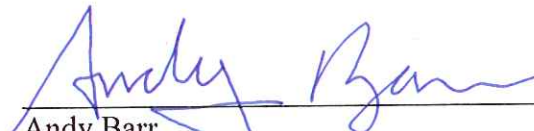
Brad R. Wenstrup  
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Sam Graves  
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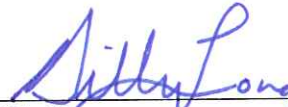
Alan Nunnelee  
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Andy Barr  
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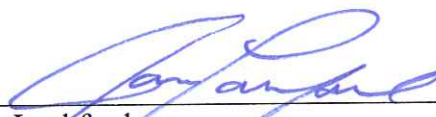
Susan W. Brooks  
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Billy Long  
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson  
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James Lankford  
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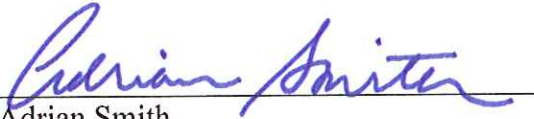




Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress



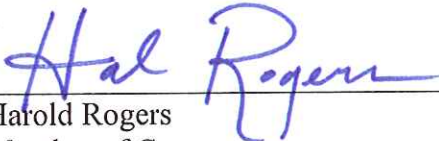
Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



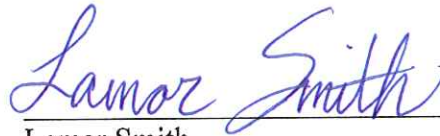
Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



Dana Rohrabacher  
Member of Congress



Harold Rogers  
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith  
Member of Congress



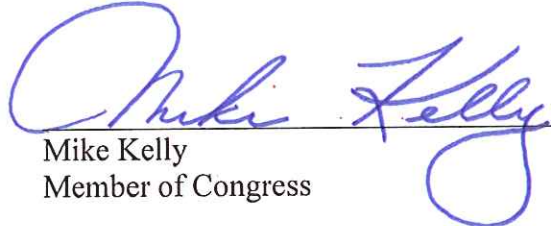
John Fleming  
Member of Congress




Sean P. Duffy  
Member of Congress



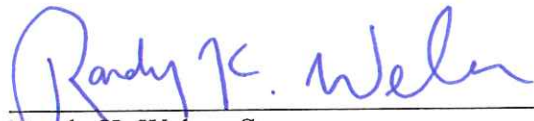
Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress



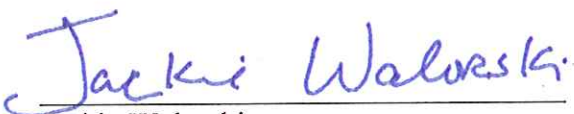
Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



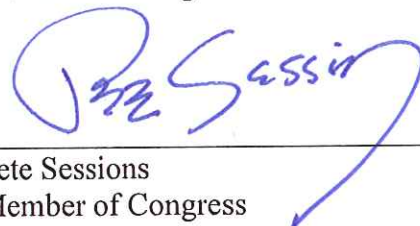
Aaron Schock  
Member of Congress



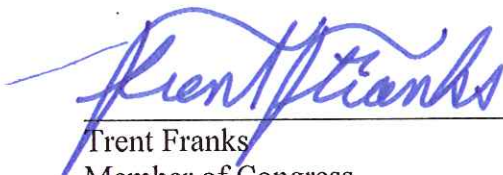
Randy K. Weber, Sr.  
Member of Congress



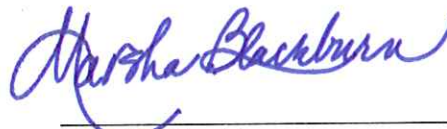
Jackie Walorski  
Member of Congress



Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress



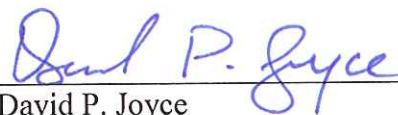
Trent Franks  
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn  
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress



David P. Joyce  
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Diane Black  
Member of Congress



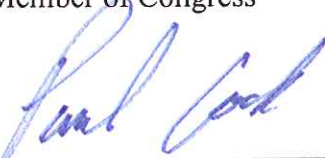
Patrick J. Tiberi  
Member of Congress



Renee Ellmers  
Member of Congress



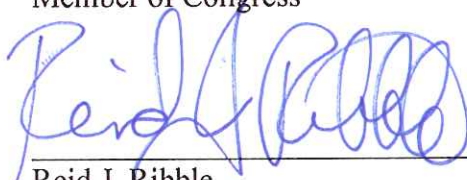
Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



Paul Cook  
Member of Congress



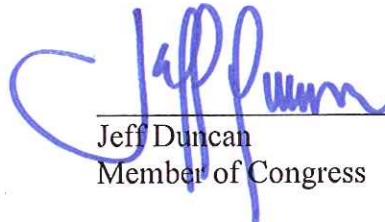
Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress



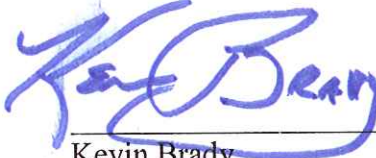
Reid J. Ribble  
Member of Congress



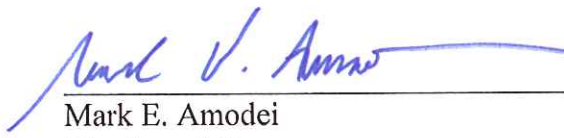
Andy Harris  
Member of Congress



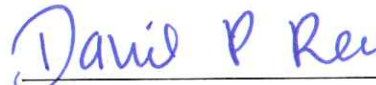
Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



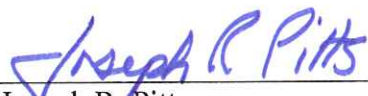
Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



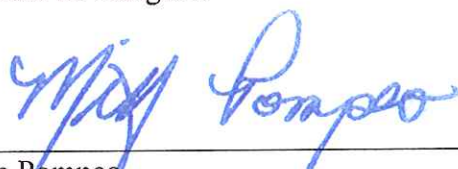
Mark E. Amodei  
Member of Congress



Phil Roe, M.D.  
Member of Congress




Joseph R. Pitts  
Member of Congress



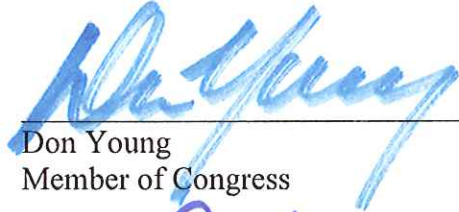
Mike Pompeo  
Member of Congress



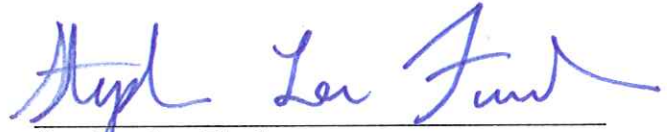
Joe Barton  
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Martha Roby  
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Don Young  
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Stephen Lee Fincher  
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Jim Jordan  
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J. Randy Forbes  
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