

# AMERICA'S STATE COAL ASSOCIATIONS

## "The Schumer-Manchin Agreement Bad for American Coal"

We, the undersigned, represent America's coal industry and join together to address the Manchin-Schumer plan released on Wednesday, July 24 pertaining to major energy and climate policy for the United States.

Last week U.S. Senator Joe Manchin announced his agreement with Senate Leader Chuck Schumer on U.S. Energy and Climate Policy.

The more you read and digest the provisions found in over 700+ pages of legislative digest, the more it becomes abundantly clear this legislation will serve to severely threaten American coal and the \$261 Billion of annual revenues that it produces for the nation's overall economy and attendant 381,000 American jobs.

This legislation is so egregious, it leaves those of us that call Senator Manchin a friend, shocked and disheartened. Senator Manchin has seemingly fought against numerous climate measures advanced over the past year by the national democratic establishment insisting that America's Coal assets be protected and allowed to continue to operate as carbon reduction strategies are developed and proven to be effective within reasonable cost and performance parameters.

The current Schumer-Manchin draft agreement on climate and energy frankly leaves us questioning the motivation and sincerity of Manchin's previous stance and his repeated chant: we must "Innovate not eliminate". The current Schumer-Manchin draft agreement will quickly diminish our coal producing operations and all but obviate any need to innovate coal assets.

Not surprising, the Schumer-Manchin proposal was quickly hailed by President Biden as the "most historic energy and climate legislation ever advanced". We also understand House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and climate activist Bernie Sanders have signed off on this legislation, which alone speaks volumes to the extreme and deadly scenario it brings to our nation's coal industry.

Let's be perfectly clear...the Schumer-Manchin bill does afford needed relief, additional incentives, and many advantages for renewables and other energy forms. You will certainly hear their voices in the chorus of people supporting this measure. However, the Schumer-Manchin bill does nothing for coal or coal generation nor does it reduce inflation or lower household energy costs.

Conversely, by turbocharging the lofty incentives that already extend to renewable energy, our nation's baseload (reliable) coal electric generation assets will continue to be devalued and thrust into rapid decline as will the thousands of miners, plant workers and the 371,000 American families whose household incomes depend on these jobs.

The Schumer-Manchin bill doubles the current tax on coal and subjects mining companies to the highest tax of any other American business effectively costing mining companies tens of millions of dollars in

new taxes and adding to the complexities of keeping state fuel and household energy costs stable and competitive.. More disturbing, the Schumer-Manchin proposal provides President Biden's EPA with the clear and unbridled ability and expanded budget to regulate greenhouse gases and state coal assets however they deem appropriate or in the most punitive manner possible.

The language in this proposal has predictably already received a glorious "Thank you Joe" from Biden's climate Czar John Kerry and current EPA cabinet officials for removing the critical underpinnings of the recent decision victory in West Virginia v. USEPA before the U.S. Supreme. Court that was championed by West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey in June.

**Why Now?** This is a question being asked universally.

Where's the rhyme or reason behind advancing the Schumer-Manchin proposal as we watch inflation grow, energy costs increase, and every American family hunkering down to make personal sacrifices while stretching available dollars. **Why now** as we watch the struggles of Ukraine against Russia and world stability weakening by the day and with every country within the European Union looking to West Virginia and West Virginia coal to replace Russian energy supplies.

Every reasonable politician including Senator Manchin has made credible arguments for not using the budget reconciliation process requiring a simple majority vote to enact such critical and complex policy decisions affecting our countries foundational principles.

So **WHY NOW** Senator Manchin? In response to this question, we will be entertained by the most confusing and artfully stated political jargon imaginable. But to the average American who tends to use "straight talk" when engaged in important discussions, advancing the Manchin-Schumer bill today will make no sense whatsoever and only makes a mockery out of the importance of the Byrd Rule for legislating through the budget reconciliation process.

State officials and Coal miners everywhere have applauded our nations abundance of coal opportunities as a world energy crisis unfolds and energy costs for the average person skyrockets. American coal is desperately sought out worldwide in large measure due to the unpredictable and underperforming operating nature of existing intermittent energy sources.

Why support anything Chuck Schumer, Joe Biden, Nancy Pelosi or John Kerry want for coal? It is incomprehensible why any miner would support the Manchin-Schumer legislation which will not only put an immediate stop to the investment and financing behind our states coal and electric generating assets but forever foreclose on America's coal industry!

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Tucker Davis, President  
The Kentucky Coal Association



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Nick Williams, President  
The Illinois Coal Association



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Matt Bell, President  
Indiana-based Reliable Energy,



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Mike Cope, President  
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Chris Hamilton, President  
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Travis Deti, Executive Director  
The Wyoming Mining Association

**West Virginia University's Bureau of Business and Economic Research assesses the total value of America's coal production and consumption for electric generation at \$261 Billion of annual revenues for the nation's overall economy. Additionally, coal is responsible for 381,000 American jobs that sustain hundreds of thousands of good paying jobs for American workers.**

**“Manchin-Schumer spending bill doubles coal tax on active coal production.”**

**-Fox Business News**

**“Sen. Manchin is raising taxes on West Virginia’s coal mining industry and providing subsidies to liberals in deep blue states to drive electric vehicles. These dramatic tax increases will threaten the entire coal industry and the thousands of West Virginia jobs and communities it supports.”**

**-Congressman Alex Mooney  
(R) West Virginia**

**“We and others have become increasingly concerned about the threat to electric reliability caused by the premature shutdown of coal plants. That is why we are extremely disappointed that the Inflation Reduction Act will accelerate the closure of coal plants by extending tax credits for wind and solar power.”**

***-America’s Power***

**“The industry that will be hurt the most by the tax hikes in the Democrats’ reckless tax and spending spree? *The coal industry.* This bill would be devastating for West Virginia”**

**-Senator Shelley Moore Capito  
(R) West Virginia**

**“Manchin-Schumer spending bill estimated to hurt coal workers the most”**

**-Fox Business News**

**“Manchin’s Support May Hand EPA Power to Throttle  
Coal Industry”**

**-Daily Caller**

**“The burden of this tax is not spread evenly across  
industries. As a share of its income, *the coal industry  
faces the heaviest burden.*”**

**-Tax Foundation**

#### **AMERICA’S STATE COAL ASSOCIATIONS**

**The Kentucky Coal Association (“KCA”)** is a non-profit organization that represents Kentucky operations that mine coal through surface and underground methods. KCA’s constitution and by-laws were adopted on April 28, 1947, “to promote the best interest of the coal mining industry in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and all those engaged therein...” KCA has two classes of members: (1) corporations, firms or individuals directly engaged in producing and/or processing coal in Kentucky; and (2) any other association, organization, corporation, firm or individual interested in promoting the welfare of the coal industry in Kentucky. Kentucky is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest coal production state according to the Energy Information Agency.

**The Illinois Coal Association (“ICA”)** is the professional trade organization responsible for the promotion of Illinois coal. The ICA represents the coal industry in Illinois in governmental affairs, in public relations, and in related matters. Through the ICA, companies producing coal in Illinois deal with issues affecting their interests with a single unified voice. Illinois is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest coal production state according to the Energy Information Agency.

**Indiana-based Reliable Energy, Inc. (“REI”)** is a trade association promoting the interests of the coal industry and its supporting businesses and is committed to ensuring an abundant supply of available, affordable, and dependable energy in Indiana and across the country. Indiana is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest coal production state according to the Energy Information Agency.

**The Ohio Coal Association (“OCA”)** is a non-profit trade association dedicated to representing the interests of Ohio’s underground and surface coal producers. The OCA represents nearly all of Ohio’s coal producers and more than 50 associate members, which include suppliers and consultants to the mining industry, coal sales agents and brokers and allied industries. As a united front, the OCA is committed to advancing the development and utilization of Ohio coal as an abundant, economic, and environmentally sound energy source. Ohio is the 15<sup>th</sup> largest coal production state according to the Energy Information Agency.

**The Pennsylvania Coal Alliance (“PCA”)** is a trade association that represents the Pennsylvania coal industry and associated service companies. The Pennsylvania Coal Alliance is committed to promoting and advancing the Pennsylvania coal industry and the economic and social benefit to the employees, businesses, communities, and consumers who depend on affordable, reliable, and increasingly clean energy from coal. Pennsylvania is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest coal production state according to the Energy Information Agency.

**The Texas Mining and Reclamation Association (“TMRA”)** is the professional trade association that represents the mining industry in Texas. TMRA serves as a single voice for the Texas mining industry and exhibits integrity, clarity and vision in its efforts to create a balance between and among mineral production, environmental protection, economic strength and public welfare. The association educates the public, regulators and policymakers on the value of mining to Texas’s economy and advocates on issues including environmental regulation, legislation and public perception. Texas is the 9<sup>th</sup> largest coal production state according to the Energy Information Agency.

**The West Virginia Coal Association (“WVCA”)** is a trade association located in Charleston, West Virginia, representing more than 90 percent of the state’s underground and surface coal mine production. Its purpose is to have a unified voice representing the state’s coal industry as well as increase emphasis on coal as a reliable energy source to help the nation achieve energy independence.

**The Wyoming Mining Association (“WMA”)** is a trade association that serves as a unified voice, by communicating, influencing, and promoting issues on behalf of the Wyoming mining industry. The WMA promotes the mining industry by communicating with elected officials, regulators, educators, and the public in a credible way that encourages trust and confidence and earns respect as a reliable

source of information on issues pertinent to the industry. Wyoming is the largest coal production state according to the Energy Information Agency.