



July 9, 2008

The Honorable Rick Boucher
U.S. House of Representatives
2187 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1101

Dear Congressman Boucher:

We write on behalf of America's coal miners and mining community to request that you cosponsor the "Carbon Capture and Storage Early Deployment Act," (H.R. 6258) introduced by Representatives Rick Boucher (D-Va.), Fred Upton (R-Mich.) and a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers dedicated to ensuring that American families and businesses continue to maintain access to affordable coal-based electricity.

The United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) and the National Mining Association (NMA) remain united in our support for efforts to address global climate change through the accelerated development and deployment of clean coal technologies. H.R. 6258 is a key step toward advancing the development and deployment of carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies that are vital to our nation's ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while utilizing coal to address the needs of a growing population and economy.

H.R. 6258 will establish a \$1 billion annual fund, derived from a modest fee. Grants from the fund will be awarded to large-scale demonstration projects that are capable of advancing the commercial availability of CCS technology.

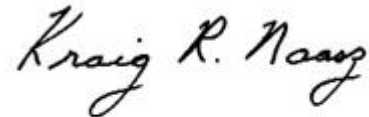
More than 50 percent of U.S. electricity comes from coal. Consumer demand for electricity is expected to grow by 30 percent over the next two decades. All sources of energy – coal, natural gas, nuclear and renewable – will be needed to help meet that demand. H.R. 6258 will advance coal as a sustainable and affordable source of energy while securing the livelihoods of more than 100,000 coal miners nationwide, creating new jobs and protecting our economy.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation. Should you or your staff require additional information, please contact Bill Banig, Director of Governmental Affairs for the UMWA at (703) 208-7220 or bbanig@umwa.org, or Glenn Kelly, Vice President of Government Affairs for the NMA at (202) 463-2664 or gkelly@nma.org.

Sincerely yours,



Cecil E. Roberts
International President
United Mine Works of America



Kraig R. Naasz
President & CEO
National Mining Association