

the Charleston Gazette

State needs coal-to-liquid

Editor:

I write this letter to applaud the efforts Gov. Joe Manchin is making to get coal-to-liquid plants built in West Virginia.

The opportunity with Beard Energy described in your Oct. 10 edition is just what the doctor ordered to jump-start this new technology here in West Virginia.

West Virginia needs the high-paying jobs, and the country needs fuel from energy found here at home. There are always going to be naysayers and ultra-environmentalists who refuse to believe coal has a place in meeting our transportation fuel needs, but the reality is this state and this country have a bountiful amount of coal and it offers energy alternatives that will reduce our country's dependence on foreign oil.

When Gov. Manchin was first elected, he promised jobs and opportunity with his slogan that "West Virginia was Open for Business." It's clear to this voter that he meant what he said and is trying to bring in another opportunity to our state that means more good-paying jobs.

Let's work together to bring opportunity to our state, not drive it away!

Brian Hawk