

February 1, 2017

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS:

As business leaders representing diverse geographic regions and economic interests, we write to encourage your support for expedited passage of a joint Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution vetoing the Obama Administration's so-called "Stream Protection Rule" (SPR).

As you know, President Clinton signed the CRA in 1996, providing Congress a mechanism to overturn contentious rules promulgated in the waning days of an outgoing Administration. Finalized by the Department of Interior on December 20, 2016—more than six weeks *after* Election Day—the highly controversial Stream Protection Rule is precisely the type of 11th-hour action the CRA was designed to prevent.

In short, the SPR is a solution in search of a problem. It is a one-size-fits-all federal mandate that interferes with the longstanding federal-state balance in overseeing mining operations. It will place massive amounts of coal reserves—and the affordable energy they provide—off limits. The National Mining Association estimates that the SPR would eliminate up to 270,000 jobs, including 80,000 mining jobs.

The negative impacts of the regulation will be felt far beyond the coalfields, extending to railroads, utilities, and the companies that service and support mining communities, from restaurants to hotels to equipment suppliers. The rule will drive up energy costs for families and businesses, and it will reduce state and local tax revenues in areas of the country that have already been devastated in recent years. This means negative impacts to schools, roads, first responders and nearly all state and local government services in affected areas.

This regulation threatens our energy security and harms our economy. Accordingly, we urge you to support swift passage of this resolution reversing the Obama Administration's lame-duck action to finalize the burdensome stream rule.

Thank you for your attention to this request, and for making American energy a priority in the new Congress.

Sincerely,

Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Central (LA) Chamber of Commerce
Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry
Colorado Business Roundtable
Grand Junction (CO) Area Chamber of Commerce
Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce
Greater West Plains Area (MO) Chamber of Commerce

Hanover Area (PA) Chamber of Commerce
Illinois Chamber of Commerce
Indiana Chamber of Commerce
Kalispell (MT) Chamber of Commerce
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
Longview (TX) Chamber of Commerce
Lubbock (TX) Chamber of Commerce
Metropolitan Milwaukee (WI) Association of Commerce
Minot Area (ND) Chamber of Commerce
Missouri Chamber of Commerce
Montana Chamber of Commerce
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
Ohio Chamber of Commerce
Oshkosh (WI) Chamber of Commerce
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry
Schaumburg (IL) Business Association
Schuylkill (IL) Chamber of Commerce
Southwest Indiana Chamber of Commerce
Texas Association of Business
Tulsa (OK) Regional Chamber
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
West Virginia Chamber of Commerce
Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce