



April 29, 2016

Dear Senator:

The United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) request your SUPPORT for SB 1195, which is bipartisan legislation that would clarify existing state law so that it is consistent with the current legal standing of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Power Plan. SB 1195 was voted from the Senate Environmental Resources Committee by a vote of 10-1.

In October 2014, Pennsylvania enacted the Greenhouse Gas Regulation Implementation Act (Act 175), which was supported by both the UMWA and IBEW. Act 175 provided a transparent process for the development of a state compliance plan by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to meet the carbon emissions reductions required under the Clean Power Plan. Act 175 also required legislative review of a state compliance plan prior to its submission to the EPA.

Since the passage of Act 175, the EPA altered the Clean Power Plan including the deadlines for submission of state plans. Additionally, the United States Supreme Court stayed implementation of the rule until pending litigation is finalized.

These two actions resulted in conflicts between certain provisions of Act 175 and the deadlines for state compliance plan submission within the Clean Power Plan. SB 1195 would resolve these conflicts by providing 80 additional days for the General Assembly to review the plan, and amending the hard deadlines for plan submission within Act 175 with references to Federal regulations.

Opponents to SB 1195 continue to raise concerns that inaccurately represent the provisions of the bill. SB 1195 does not change the current requirements of a state compliance plan, and provides no additional power to the General Assembly for review of the state plan. SB 1195 simply aligns existing state law to address the current legal standing of the Clean Power Plan.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

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