



AMERICANS FOR LIMITED GOVERNMENT

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The Honorable Lamar Alexander
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

June 18, 2012

Dear Senator Alexander,

On behalf of Americans for Limited Government (ALG), I am writing to ask that you immediately rescind and repudiate your support of Barack Obama and the nation's radical environmentalists as they seek to impose intrusive, economically disastrous new energy regulations onto the private sector.

By opposing Sen. James Inhofe in his effort to block the costliest Environmental Protection Agency mandate ever proposed (the Utility MACT rule) — you are acting as nothing more than a pawn in Obama's "War on Coal." Even worse, you are attempting to provide cover to other Obama foot soldiers by offering legislation that would merely delay the devastating impact of this overreaching regulation.

Sen. Inhofe himself has specifically referred to your legislation — co-sponsored with Democrat Mark Pryor — as a "cover bill" that still "kills coal but just puts it off for six years."

Such overbearing regulation would be inexcusable in any economic climate, but it is downright unforgivable given our nation's current economic malaise and the high unemployment, declining productivity and shrinking income levels Obama's failed policies have created. Our economy simply cannot afford such a costly, overreaching and unnecessary mandate — nor is it in a position to bear the lost jobs and higher energy costs such a mandate would produce.

"Based on the estimates and assumptions published by EPA, it appears the total cost for the Utility MACT rule may exceed \$108 billion," members of the U.S. House Energy Committee wrote to EPA administrator Lisa Jackson last week.

Does this sound like a blow the private sector is currently in a position to absorb? Of course not — unless you subscribe to Obama's notion that the "private sector is doing just fine." But even if the private sector were doing fine (which Obama now concedes that it isn't) passing this regulation would be a sure-fire way to throw things in reverse.

According to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works, the regulation you are supporting would do away with 20 percent of America's coal-fired capacity and kill 1.6 million jobs. It would also reduce America's household disposable income by an estimated \$71 billion.

You have frequently invoked the legacy of Ronald Reagan over the course of your political career, referring to yourself as an "activist conservative" who believes in growth and prosperity through limited government.

Your support for this economically crippling regulation stands in stark contrast to that legacy and those stated beliefs — which is why I hereby call upon you to join your Republican colleagues (and Democratic Senators Joe Manchin and Ben Nelson) in supporting Senator Inhofe's legislation.

I would also call upon you to drop your own bill, which as noted previously is nothing but an attempt to provide political cover for those seeking to do the bidding of Obama and the radical left.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William A. Wilson". The signature is written in black ink and has a fluid, connected style.

William Wilson
President
Americans for Limited Government