



Women's Mining Coalition Asks Congress Not to Eliminate Desperately Needed Jobs. Don't Increase the Cost of Living for Every American.

The Women's Mining Coalition (WMC) opposes the "Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act" (S. 1733) sponsored by Sens. John Kerry (D-Mass.) and Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and similar legislative approaches that:

- Threaten to eliminate high-wage mining jobs;
- Increase electricity prices by more than 100 percent, saddling American businesses and families with higher energy bills; lowering investment and disposable incomes;
- Drive up costs for consumer goods and services;
- Could eliminate coal as a source of affordable electricity and may result in American jobs exported to countries with no greenhouse gas emissions restrictions; and
- Mandate sharp near-term emission reductions before advanced clean coal technologies, such as carbon capture and storage (CCS), can be developed and cost-effectively deployed.

While changes to the House-approved legislation by the Senate were intended to reduce harmful economic consequences, these changes are not sufficient to produce a balanced and responsible policy for addressing the country's concerns.

What's Best for the Country:

In addition to assuring that emission reductions are compatible with the commercial availability of the enabling technologies, **an effective and balanced climate policy must include:**

- Cost-containment measures, such as a cost-effective "safety valve" and unrestricted offsets to protect against spikes in energy costs that will drive business and jobs overseas;
- Sufficient, reliable and timely funding and incentives to accelerate the development, demonstration and broad commercial deployment of advanced coal technologies such as CCS;
- A comprehensive legal framework governing carbon capture and storage liability in order to provide the certainty needed to attract investment;
- Effective measures that maintain the global competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing and mining industries; and
- Clear and comprehensive preemption of all federal, state and local laws addressing greenhouse gas emissions.

America's families, communities and businesses cannot sustain higher energy costs, additional job losses and a further weakening of our economy.
We urge you to oppose the Kerry-Boxer bill.