



PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

May 17, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I would like to express my intense concern about the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) plans to issue greenhouse gas (GHG) new source performance standards for new coal, oil and natural gas electric generating sources. The proposed rule will set a standard that is unprecedented under the Clean Air Act by requiring all three fuel types to meet a single standard, and I urge you to consider an alternative approach intended to address GHG emissions in a way that will not harm Mississippi's economy or endanger the affordable electricity supply the residents of my state need to live and prosper.

Our nation can continue to use coal and continue to lower emissions at the same time. Coal-based power generation projects are being developed across the country as well as in Mississippi, using state-of-the-art technologies that are laying the foundation for revolutionary advancements in power plant efficiency and reduced carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. As a result of these advancements in technology, the goal of near-zero emissions from coal is within sight. In addition, these improvements are allowing us to modernize the existing coal-fueled fleet by improving efficiency and reducing emissions per unit of electricity produced, all while continuing to produce low-cost electricity for homes, offices and factories across my state.

If finalized, EPA's proposed rule will effectively ban these new plants from being built and prevent Mississippi from generating more electricity with less fuel and fewer emissions. Opportunities to provide economic stimulus and benefits from future energy efficiency projects and enhanced coal technologies will be lost, and my state's manufacturing, construction and energy sectors will be hurt at a time when they can least afford it.

I respectfully request that EPA amend its rule in order to set distinct standards based on fuel type and the demonstrated performance of supercritical and integrated gasification combined cycle coal generation technologies as the performance standards for new coal-based electricity. Such an amendment will help protect the environment, create new construction and manufacturing jobs, strengthen the economy of Mississippi through a technology-based approach to the CO₂ issue, and allow the state to continue to be a leader in building highly efficient, low emissions coal power generation technology.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Bryant".

Phil Bryant,
Governor

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