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**Testimony of ARIPPA before the
House Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Subcommittee on Environment,
in Support of H.R. 1119 (the SENSE Act)
September 13, 2017
Summary Points**

- Coal refuse is a legacy problem in coal regions.
- Coal refuse piles produce multi-media environmental, safety and health problems.
- The coal refuse to energy industry effectively and permanently addresses the coal refuse problems in a fashion that is good for the environment as well as local and state economies.
- Total economic output of the PA & WV coal refuse industry, including direct, indirect and induced activity, is estimated at about \$800 million.
- The coal refuse to energy industry in PA and WV supports 3,800 family and community sustaining jobs per year, with total annual employee earnings of more than \$231.5 million.
- Environmental benefits resulting from plant activities (which include water quality benefits, public safety benefits, and land value benefits) are estimated at about \$30 million per year.
- A number of bituminous coal refuse fired units can't meet either of the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards rule's acid gas limits and face a threat of imminent closure absent the SENSE Act.
- The SENSE Act provides an additional performance based sulfur dioxide acid gas limit for bituminous coal refuse fired units only.
- The SENSE Act provisions ensure that all of the monetized health benefits of the Cross State Air Pollution Rule and the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards rule are preserved.
- The SENSE Act is responsible legislation that allows six (6) bituminous coal refuse-fired units to continue to provide a permanent solution to the legacy coal refuse problem in coal regions while ensuring there aren't any negative environmental impacts.