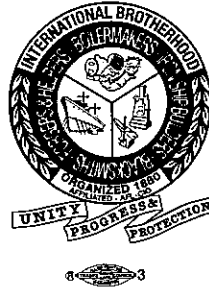


International Brotherhood of
BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS

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CECILE M. CONROY
DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
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BLACKSMITHS • FORGERS & HELPERS

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December 11, 2019

The Honorable Dan Meuser
U.S. House of Representatives
326 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Matt Cartwright
U.S. House of Representatives
1034 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: The Mine Affected Community Energy and Environment Act (H.R. 4735)

Dear Congressmen Meuser and Cartwright:

On behalf of The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers (IBB), I write to express our support for H.R. 4735, the Mine Affected Community Energy and Environment Act.

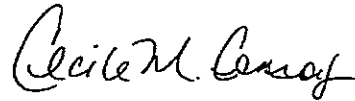
This legislation is critical to address the health, safety and environmental costs imposed on local communities by our nation's coal mining legacy and continues a longstanding public-private partnership with coal refuse reclamation to energy facilities that remove polluting coal refuse piles and reclaim abandoned mine land (AML) sites. H.R. 4735 would create a refundable federal tax credit for power plants generating electricity through coal refuse remediation at AML sites.

The coal refuse reclamation to energy industry delivers substantial economic and environmental benefits as a vital partner in the effort to address the problems associated with AML sites. In Pennsylvania alone, over the past 30 years this industry has removed more than 225 million tons of coal refuse, reclaimed at least 7,200 acres of mine-scarred land and restored over 1,200 miles of impaired streams, but there is still more work to be done.

The industry also represents a major source of economic activity and family-sustaining employment. The facilities in Pennsylvania annually produce \$615 million in annual economic benefit, supporting 3,000 Full-Time Equivalent jobs. These benefits are concentrated in historic coal communities that face significant existing challenges.

We commend your bi-partisan leadership on this issue by introducing H.R. 4735, the Mine Affected Community Energy and Environment Act, which will provide much needed environmental and economic opportunities in affected coal communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cecile M. Conroy".

Cecile M. Conroy
Director, Government Affairs

cc: Newton B. Jones, International President
William T. Creeden, International Secretary-Treasurer
U.S. International Vice Presidents
Tyler Brown, Chief of Staff, ED-ISO, AAIP