

Sample Letter for UTAH AMAC Delegates and Members

Honorable Gary Herbert

Dear Governor:

On behalf of senior citizens in our great state, I urge you to strongly oppose and do what you can to stop the Obama Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Clean Power Plan rules to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants. This proposed regulation hurts all Utahans, while our seniors, individuals and families in the low and middle income range and our job-creating businesses are hit the hardest.

We just saw a recent industry study -- "Energy Market Impacts of Recent Federal Regulations on the Electric Power Sector (November 20, 2014) -- released by the energy economics firm Energy Venture Analysis, Inc. ("EVA")" and which reports on the heavy financial burden the EPA's Clean Power Plan, when coupled with other new air emissions requirements, will force on American families, businesses and manufacturers through soaring energy costs. Very disturbingly, the study found the typical household's annual electricity and natural gas bills would increase by \$680, or 35 percent, from 2012 compared to 2020, escalating each year thereafter as EPA regulations grow more stringent. For industrial users, the increase is a 56% increase.

For Utah, EVA reports that the average annual Utah household electricity and gas bills would increase by approximately \$390 in 2020 -- a 25% increase in average power (+\$124) and gas (+\$366) bills. Moreover, EVA also say Utah industrial electricity rates will also increase 31% by 2020, causing inevitable job losses. Again, seniors on modest fixed incomes and those struggling families living on lower incomes will be hurt the most, because higher utility bills act like a regressive tax, forcing lower-income citizens to pay a disproportionate amount of their income to heat and cool their homes, stretching their budgets to the breaking point -- or choose between a comfortable home and a cold one.

Many seniors are increasingly concerned that the-EPA cares little about such impacts. Nor are these painful impacts even necessary given what the electric power industry is already doing in its ongoing investments in new technologies. We continue to experience electricity rate bumps because of the cost of environmental regulatory requirements and are very concerned about the efforts by this EPA to eliminate the use of coal, which is an abundant resource -- which supports directly and directly over 14,570+ Utah jobs -- that has served our Nation's power needs well for decades and provides for over 82% of our state's electricity.

I urge you to do all you can to stop this misguided regulatory action by an out-of-touch EPA.

Sincerely,

/s/

