



The Voice of Small Business®

PENNSYLVANIA

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

November 11, 2015

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Honorable John Quigley
Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection
400 Market Street
Rachel Carson State Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17101

DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Dear Secretary Quigley:

On behalf of the 14,000 small-business members of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), I am writing to express our members' concerns and opposition to Pennsylvania moving forward with the EPA's "Clean Power Plan" edict.

On Oct. 23, the NFIB Small Business Legal Center announced that it would lead a coalition of business groups in a lawsuit to invalidate the EPA's new power plant rule. We believe we will prevail. At least 26 state attorneys general have also weighed in separately to ask a federal appeals court for a stay of the rule on similar grounds.

Compliance with this rule would effectively force Pennsylvania to shutter many of our coal-power electric energy generators, which produce 36 percent of our electricity, in favor of costly alternatives that might not be as reliable.

The coal industry is a vital part of Pennsylvania's economy and adds \$4 billion to the economy and supports 36,000 jobs at an average salary of \$79,127 a year, according to the Pennsylvania Economy League. Thousands of small businesses benefit from working within the industry, or by supplying the industry with needed services.

The Clean Power Plan would shrink the U.S. economy by \$150 billion and cost the typical family up to \$1,700 over the course of a decade, according to a Heritage Foundation analysis of the Energy Information Administration's (EIA) data.

Families won't be the only group impacted by the increased cost. For many small businesses, affordable energy costs are critical to their operation. In fact, NFIB's latest "Small Business Problems and Priorities" survey shows that the cost of energy is already a top concern among small business owners. The Heritage Foundation estimates this rule will lead to the loss of 29,000 manufacturing jobs in Pennsylvania.

We respectfully ask that you halt efforts to comply with this unconstitutional and illegal rule and instead fight to protect Pennsylvania's small businesses, workers, and their families.

Sincerely,

Kevin Shivers
Executive State Director