



Transportation Communications Union/IAM

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

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SPECIAL ALERT

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The proposed rule issued on June 2, 2014, by the Environmental Protection Agency could have a profound affect for U.S. Workers who rely on coal for their livelihoods. The new rule left in its current form will lead to job losses for scores of U.S. railroad workers but will do little to curb global CO2 emissions.

Our Union supports a balanced approach to national climate change that also protects American jobs and the railroads. We share a deep concern that EPA's regulation of greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act will have a very negative effect on our jobs and the economy. In our view, the Clean Air Act was not designed for—and is ill suited—to address the complexities of reducing greenhouse gas emissions while at the same time protecting workers. Hundreds of thousands of jobs are potentially at stake.



One in five railroad jobs rely on the transportation of coal. Coal remains the single largest commodity for the railroads as well as a large export commodity. Coal makes up more than 20 percent of the freight loads of major U.S. railroads, with the carriers having shipped some 2.3 million carloads so far this year.

The new EPA proposal will, without doubt, compel more coal-burning power plants to phase out coal and switch faster to natural gas or alternative fuels. Many utilities have already been closing older coal-powered plants.

TCU/IAM will work with Representative Nick J. Rahall, D- W.V., who said he would introduce legislation to stop both the new rule for existing power plants as well as last year's proposal for future plants.

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