



ROSEBUD MINING COMPANY

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Testimony on HB 114
6/13/2017

Honorable Members of the Committee,

Chairman Balderson, Vice Chair Jordan, Ranking Member O'Brien and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify on HB 114. Hello my name is Matt Beaver. I am a coal miner of 20 years with 19 of those years in the State of Ohio. I am currently the superintendent at the Vail Mine in Freeport, Ohio. I am the father of three boys, ages 16, 12 and 11 and currently reside in Guernsey County, Ohio.

Through my 38 years in Ohio, I have witnessed the highs and lows of the coal industry. I have first seen the rise of regulation created by the war on coal and the costs to the company and its employees associated with these regulations. Although I have been fortunate enough to survive this decline in production and rise in regulation, I continue to fear for my friends' jobs and the jobs of my fellow Ohio coal miners. The current Administration is working hard to roll back the regulatory damage caused by the prior Administration. However, arbitrary standards like Ohio's RPS policies stand in the way. Coal miners with hopes of keeping their good jobs or miners with the hopes of being called back to work have less of an opportunity due to uneconomic policies like the renewable portfolio standards.

I feel that Ohio and as a nation we have the ability to supply efficient clean affordable electricity with our natural resources. There is no need to push out these abundant natural resources with artificial policies. Coal offers good paying jobs and excellent benefits for Ohio families. Coal also provides a good honest living for my family along with my fellow workers in the industry. It has provided these jobs to a region that has struggled to produce good long-term jobs. I feel that without these jobs it will slowly cripple the small communities in these regions, not just putting the coal miner themselves out of work but also the other support industries, such as trucks, trains and vendors that work with the companies. They too will suffer the long lasting effects of this renewable portfolio standard not only from a job standpoint, but through the cost of their electric bill.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matt Beaver

Superintendent, Vail Mine
Rosebud Mining Company