

United Mine Workers of America

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The Honorable Dr. Stephen Chu
Secretary of the Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

The Honorable Jack Lew
Director of the Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St., NW
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Gentlemen:

As President of the United Mine Workers of America, I would like to add the UMWA's voice to a letter both of you recently received from the President of the American Federation of Government Employees, John Gage, calling for continued robust funding for the DOE's Office of Fossil Energy and the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) for Fiscal Year FY 2013. Although the use of fossil energy, both domestically and globally, face a number of challenges, both the United States and countries around the world will continue to rely on fossil energy, especially coal, to power their economies for decades to come.

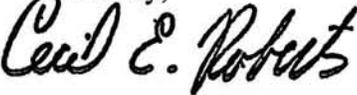
Since the passage of the Clean Air Act the UMWA has been a strong advocate of developing and the installation of advanced clean coal technologies here in the United States. In recent years we have been very vocal advocates for the rapid development of carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technologies in Congress and within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations. When it comes to fossil energy research, NETL is the cornerstone of all our efforts to address the challenges facing fossil energy. It is imperative that NETL be funded in a robust manner to face these challenges here at home and abroad.

Many times I have heard President Obama speak on the need for the United States to be the one that developed and export advanced energy technologies, including fossil technology. The President has said we should not stand by and let our major trading partners capture this

emerging market at the expense of our economy and especially American jobs. Without a robust NETL in my humble opinion that is exactly what we will be doing.

As a labor leader there is no higher priority in protecting your member's jobs and creating new employment opportunities for your members. Clearly the development of advanced fossil technologies at NETL will help to make this a reality. The research being done at NETL and the deployment of technologies will be a major job creator in this fragile economy and especially in regions of the country that are often overlooked.

In closing, the UMWA strongly supports robust funding of DOE's Office of Fossil Energy and NETL in the DOE's FY 2013 budget submission to Congress.

Sincerely,


Cecil E. Roberts

cc: Senator John D. Rockefeller IV
Senator Joe Manchin
Senator Robert Casey
Daniel J. Kane, International Secretary-Treasurer
Ed Yankovich, International District 2 Vice President
Mike Caputo, International District 31 Vice President