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Memorandum

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Jeffrey P. Pyle

60th Legislative District

RE:

Proposed Legislation:

PA Coal & Air Quality Improvement Tax Credit Act (Previously HB 1485, 2008-2009 Legislative Session)

DATE:

December 15, 2010

I plan to re-introduce former House Bill 1485, the Pennsylvania Coal and Air Quality Improvement Tax Credit Act. This legislation will provide a \$3.00 per ton tax credit on coal mined from deposits in or waste coal recovered from within the Commonwealth. In order to qualify for the tax credit the coal or waste coal must be delivered to a coal-fired electric generation station that has installed the required pollution control equipment. The maximum credit allowed per year shall be limited to \$30 million. In addition, the program will sunset in 2015 unless reauthorized by the General Assembly.

The coal industry continues to be an important component of Pennsylvania's economy, providing over 74,000 direct and indirect jobs. A study completed by the Western Economic Analysis Center reported that coal mining had an \$11.4 billion combined impact on the state's economy. I feel this legislation, which mirrors legislation in surrounding states, will expedite the installation of pollution control devices to greatly reduce existing emissions of nitrogen oxide, sulphur dioxide and mercury and vastly improve our air quality. Passage of this legislation will also protect jobs in the minerals industries AND protect consumers from dramatic electric rate hikes.

If you are interested in cosponsoring this legislation, please contact my Harrisburg Legislative Assistant, Tracey Mattern, at 783-5327 or via e-mail at tmattern@pahousegop.com. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

JPP:tm