

RESOLUTION PROTECTING COAL

WHEREAS, the United States holds the world's largest estimated recoverable reserves of coal in the world, and this untapped coal could provide low cost energy production and good-paying, American jobs for approximately 250 years; and

WHEREAS, American coal is mined in twenty-five states, generating at least forty-two percent of the country's electricity and is a basic requirement for the production of steel, and coal thereby creates nearly eight hundred thousand jobs and more than fifty-two billion in wages to support American families; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has declared a "War on Coal" and has circumvented Congress by ordering the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to promulgate punitive, restrictive and unnecessary regulations governing emissions from coal-fired power plants; and

WHEREAS, the EPA rules are forcing 295 coal units to close or convert, constituting a federal government overreach with these aggressive regulations in President Obama's "War on Coal" which results in a "War on American Jobs;" and

WHEREAS, states nationwide have seen the closing of several coal mining facilities and energy production plants as the result of the "War on Coal," causing coal industry jobs and coal related businesses to plummet, particularly in Southern Appalachia; and

WHEREAS, these job losses and the closing of several coal mining facilities and energy production plants throughout the south and across the country can be traced directly back to the Obama Administration and the ardent anti-coal bias it shares with its political allies such as Greenpeace and AARP; and,

WHEREAS, state officials and attorneys general in several coal producing states have filed lawsuits against the EPA (and other states are planning to file lawsuits) to seek remedies to block the crippling effects that President Obama's unilateral attack on the coal industry will have on their economies, unemployment rates, and national security; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee calls upon President Obama, his administration and the Environmental Protection Agency to rescind their misguided and dangerous energy policy and return to supporting the production of the proven and dependable energy source that has served our nation well for centuries – coal, which is the most reliable and the most economical energy source; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee urges Republican elected officials on the federal, state and local levels not to implement "job-killing" and "economy killing" EPA regulations, by any legal means necessary, in order to keep America's coal workers gainfully employed and the families who depend upon them fed, housed, and secure.