

Dear (House Members):

On behalf of the multi-sector members of the Western Business Roundtable, I am writing to express our support for *The Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act* (H.R. 2273), now moving through Congress.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has indicated its intent to issue new federal rules regulating management of coal combustion residuals (CCRs) (also referred to as “coal combustion byproducts” or “CCBs”). One of the alternatives being put forward by EPA is to regulate such products as a special waste under the hazardous waste provisions of Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). We strongly oppose any such a designation.

Broadly characterizing CCRs as "hazardous wastes" is misleading and counter-productive. Such a designation would have far-reaching and negative impacts on the U.S. economy, including severely hampering the energy production and electricity generation sectors' -- including a number of Roundtable members' -- abilities to meet our nation's energy needs.

Further, CCRs are routinely used in productive ways that are environmentally/technically sound and which are crucial to the economy and job creation. This includes the use of CCRs in concrete and concrete products, the production of portland cement, manufacture of drywall and as flowable fill materials, in structural fills and embankments, for road base and soil amendments, as well as in mining, agricultural and other construction activities. These applications have enabled contractors, end-users and project owners to reduce the consumption of virgin materials and have eliminated the need for new landfill space, thereby decreasing the disturbance of additional land areas.

We are deeply concerned by EPA’s push to extend its regulatory authority across a breadth of issues. CCRs are just the latest example. For that reason, we believe that Congress needs to take affirmative action to rein in the Agency.

H.R. 2273 is a good vehicle for doing so. The bill would prohibit EPA from designating CCRs as RCRA Subtitle C wastes. Rather, it would establish first-ever national standards for coal ash disposal regulations modeled after existing, proven regulations for managing municipal solid waste. This approach provides federal oversight, but does so in a way that builds on existing

state authorities to manage waste programs and provides states maximum flexibility for implementation.

Please give H.R. 2273 your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly Propst". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Holly Propst
Executive Director / General Counsel
Western Business Roundtable

The Roundtable is a broad-based coalition of companies doing business in the Western United States. Our membership is comprised of a coalition of corporations and organizations representing a broad cross-section of Western business including, among others: manufacturing; mining; electric power generation, transmission and distribution; energy infrastructure development; energy supply exploration/development and transportation; energy services; and environmental engineering.

We work to defend the interests of the West and support policies that encourage economic growth and opportunity, freedom of enterprise and a sound approach to conservation and environmental stewardship.