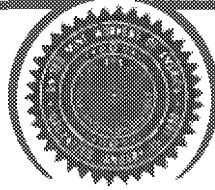


United Mine Workers of America

CECIL E. ROBERTS
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



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November 8, 2017

The Honorable Tom Barrasso
Chair, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

Dear Chairman Barrasso, Ranking Member Carper and Members of the Committee:

As you consider the nomination of Andrew R. Wheeler for Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, I ask that you take into consideration his hard work on behalf of America's active and retired coal mine workers. For the past five years, Mr. Wheeler has been an ally as the United Mine Workers of America has worked to preserve the health care and pensions that retired miners worked for over their lifetimes.

Andrew worked alongside our UMWA team to successfully pass legislation that has ensured that our miners will have the health care that was promised to them, and that they earned. As you are aware, this effort lasted years, and we faced major setbacks along the way. However, Andrew was a strong partner to us and we are very appreciative of that.

Andrew will bring a wealth of experience, from both the public and private sectors, to EPA. It is our belief that he will be a reasonable voice within the agency, and will recognize the impact on both the workers and mining communities that are directly affected as EPA develops future emissions regulations.

We look forward to working productively with Andrew in this role at EPA. I am available to discuss this further at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Cecil E. Roberts in black ink.
Cecil E. Roberts