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November 17, 2025

The Honorable Harriet Hageman
U.S. House of Representatives
227 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Hageman:

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business, I write in support of H.J. Res. 130, which would repeal the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)'s Buffalo Field Office Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA). This Biden-era rule restricted American energy production on nearly 500,000 acres of land in northeastern Wyoming. Repealing this RMPA would unlock 48 billion short tons of coal in this region and help lower energy costs for small businesses not just in Wyoming, but across the whole country.

NFIB represents approximately 300,000 small and independent businesses across the United States, including more than 1,600 in the state of Wyoming. In NFIB's most recent *Problems and Priorities* survey, small businesses ranked the cost of natural gas, propane, gasoline, diesel, and fuel oil as their 6th most pressing issue.¹

Unfortunately, access to affordable and reliable energy remains a problem for small businesses. In a recent NFIB member ballot, 88% of NFIB members supported Congress streamlining regulations on the production and transportation of energy sources.² Repealing these burdensome BLM land restrictions would do just that, allowing for the production of more American energy on American land.

Over 40% of American coal production comes from the Powder River Basin (PRB) in Wyoming and Montana. Earlier this year, NFIB supported H.J. Res 104, which nullified a similar BLM rule issued for the Montana portion of the PRB.³ Put together, these BLM regulations restricted access to centuries worth of U.S. coal demand. BLM's regulations, issued at the end of the Biden presidency, were intended to prevent US energy exploration and production of Montana and Wyoming energy reserves. These restrictions would reduce supply and increase production costs for energy developers that would be passed on to small businesses and consumers.

NFIB supports repealing this onerous rule so U.S. producers can meet the energy demands of small businesses. We look forward to working with you to further decrease energy and regulatory costs for small businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis A. Bertolotti".

Louis A. Bertolotti
Principal, Federal Government Relations
NFIB

¹ Holly Wade & Madeline Oldstone, Small Business Problems & Priorities, NFIB Research Center, July 2024. <http://bit.ly/40uXas5>.

² NFIB Member Ballot, Mandate, vol. 582., March 2023, *Should Congress streamline regulations to facilitate the production and transport of oil, natural gas, and other energy sources in the United States?* (Yes: 88% No: 6% Undecided: 6%)

³ <https://www.nfib.com/news/press-release/nfib-sends-letter-to-congress-in-support-of-h-j-res-104/>