Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

As a concerned citizen of (state), I ask you to support and cosponsor the Appalachian Communities Health Emergency Act (ACHE Act), H.R. 2073. The bill would halt new or expanded mountaintop removal coal mine permits until and unless the process is proven safe for neighboring communities. Dozens of peer-reviewed scientific studies have demonstrated significantly higher rates of birth defects, cancer, heart disease, and other deadly illnesses in areas near mountaintop removal, after accounting for other factors.

One study found over 1,200 “excess deaths” in communities near mountaintop removal. Another study, conducted in the lab by scientists with the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center, was titled “Appalachian Mountaintop Mining Particulate Matter Induces Neoplastic Transformation of Human Bronchial Epithelial Cells and Promotes Tumor Formation.” The hazards of the fine airborne silica dust, drifting for miles from the blast sites, have been known for decades. However, American citizens of all ages are routinely forced to endure breathing this dust in their homes, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods.

Mountaintop removal is not merely a local nuisance but rather a national disgrace. It is also the cradle of the climate crisis, destroying carbon-sink forests while extracting coal.

Please join the lead sponsor of the bill, Rep. John Yarmuth of Kentucky, in taking a stand for the health and safety of American citizens. Please support and cosponsor the ACHE Act, H.R. 2073.

Thank you.

Name

Address