

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 19, 2015

Contact: Mary MacFarlane 303-279-6536 X102 or Mary@i2i.org

Diverse Interests Send Letter of Concern to Hickenlooper

Associations band together to express unease over new EPA regulations

DENVER, Colo. – Several groups representing rural Colorado, the mining industry, small business, as well as farmers and ranchers have sent a letter of concern today to Governor John Hickenlooper about the Environmental Protection Agency’s proposed controversial Clean Power Plan.

Under direction from President Obama, the EPA has put forward a variety of rules aimed at cutting carbon dioxide emissions. However, the coalition of groups who authored the letter to Governor Hickenlooper maintain the new regulations will drive up energy prices, kill jobs, and threaten the reliability of Colorado’s and the nation’s electric grid.

The various groups who have signed on to the letter of concern include the Associated Governments of Northern Colorado (AGNC), Club 20, The Colorado Farm Bureau, The Colorado Mining Association, The Board of Moffat County Commissioners, The City of Craig City Council, Craig Colorado Chamber of Commerce, National Federation of Independent Business/Colorado (NFIB), and the Independence Institute.

“Our concern is for all Colorado ratepayers,” said Amy Oliver Cooke, Director of the Energy Policy Center for the Independence Institute. “As it stands now, that state may just implement these rules without transparency, accountability, or legislative oversight, and with no concern for cost or reliability.”

Moffat County Commissioner John Kinkaid noted how hard his district already has been hit, “We have not recovered from the great recession and the President's War on Coal. We have lost almost 8% of our population since 2009. We need Democrats and Republicans to band together for rural Colorado. It is my hope that the Governor will use his sway to help get our miners back to work.”

Full text of the letter is attached.

The Independence Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit public policy research organization based in Denver, Colo.

###

727 E. 16th Ave. Denver, CO 80203 www.independenceinstitute.org

