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Office of Natural Resources Revenue  
P.O. Box 25165  
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Denver, CO 80225

Subject: Regulation Identifier Number 1012 – AA13; Consolidated Federal Oil & Gas and Federal & Indian Coal Valuation Reform

Dear Mr. Southall:

I support the Department of the Interior’s recent actions to withdraw the “Consolidated Federal Oil and Gas and Federal and Indian Coal Valuation Reform (ONRR-2012-0004 (1012-AA13))” rule and agree with the concerns outlined on the rule. As finalized by the Obama Administration, this rule threatened to curtail responsible production of natural resources, and so we ask that the Department of Interior move forward with withdrawing the rule.

The rule was deeply flawed and incompatible with the Office of Natural Resource Revenue’s (ONRR) mission to optimize revenues from federal resources and should be fully repealed. The rule was nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to keep federal coal in the ground rather than to optimize revenues.

I believe this rule would likely have had a negative impact on our community by reducing important royalty revenue to western states and the Federal government. The Office of Natural Resource Revenue has an important charge, and appropriate development of America’s natural resources is essential for economic growth, prosperity and funding of important government services.

Thank you for your attention to this matter of significant importance.

Yours sincerely,

Representative Tom Walters  
House District 38  
Wyoming