



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

November 20, 2021

Mr. Randall Atkins
Chairman
National Coal Council
1101 Sugarview Dr.
Sheridan, WY 82801

Dear Chairman Atkins:

As you know, the National Coal Council (NCC) federal advisory committee has provided critical input to the Secretary of Energy since 1984. The Department is eager to continue to benefit from the counsel that the NCC has provided and has been working to define an updated and broadened scope of work.

In order to accomplish this, the Department is in the process of submitting a new charter, revised to reflect matters currently faced by the coal industry, workers, and communities, including priorities established by the Energy Act of 2020 as well as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law enacted this week, and to generally modernize the advisory committee.

The proposed revisions to the charter may include expanding the scope to explicitly include advising the Secretary on matters related to coal workers and coal communities, in addition to coal as a resource and coal technologies; updating statutory references to reflect recent coal-related congressional priorities established by the Energy Act of 2020 and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law; a change in the size of the committee; and committing the Department staff and financial resources necessary to support the committee.

The realities of federal advisory committee procedures mean that the current charter will lapse for a period until the new charter is approved, but rest assured that the important work of the National Coal Council will continue. We deeply appreciate your service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Wilcox".

Jennifer Wilcox
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
Fossil Energy and Carbon Management