

2011 HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

HCR 3028

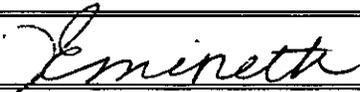
2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HCR 3028
2/10/2011
14383

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Rep. Porter: We will open HCR 3028.

Rep. Headland: It is imperative that we get Congress to do everything they possibly can to prohibit the EPA from regulating the greenhouse emissions.

Dale Niezwaag: I represent Basin Electric Power Corp. and the Dakota Gasification Company. We are in support of the EPA Resolution.

Tom Bodine: I represent the North Dakota Farm Bureau. We are also in support of HCR 3028.

David Straley: I represent North American Coal. We support the current resolution.

Sandy Tabor: I am with the Lignite Energy Council. HCR 3028 encourages Congress to adopt legislation to prohibit the EPA or the Environmental Protection agency from regulating greenhouse gas emissions and to impose a moratorium on the adoption on any new air quality regulations except for those that address environmental or health emergency for at least two years. The basis for the resolution is a concern that EPA is an agency running out of control. (see attachment 1) We urge a Do Pass.

Rep. Nelson: What would be the difference in emissions in other countries like China?

Sandy Tabor: To my knowledge they don't have any regulation. They are generating new coal operating plants. They are redoing a plant a week. There are advances in China and India that they will start looking at, like exploring renewable energy and will start looking at emission controls. It is safe to say

third world countries believe that they get their chance at populating the air in order to expand their economy.

Rep. Hofstad: The state Health Department is looking to come up with a plan to comply with some of these rules and regulations. Where are we in that process? What is the likely hood of meeting those standards?

Sandy Tabor: There are ongoing negotiations with region 8 of the EPA, regarding the state implications plan on regional haze. Regional haze was a statutory authority for the regional haze rules and was passed by Congress a while ago. States are required to set up implication plans on how they would meet not only the immediate standards for reducing regional haze which is haze caused by moisture, dust some emissions from the plants like sulfurs and nitrogen oxides. In some areas of the country due to the climate of those areas and the natural backgrounds of those areas, have a lot of haze in some of the parks. In North Dakota we don't have that yet we are being forced to meet the same standards. The Department of Health has submitted their state implication and the EPA has challenged it in several different areas. The EPA does not make a better good faith effort to try and understand some of those natural occurrences and some of the issues we have with the pollutants being transported across the border from Canada. We will be out of compliance and there are some regulatory requirements before this occurs. This is a very serious issue. Part of the EPA's problem is that they are not looking at this by the regions, they are looking at this as a blanket regulation and that is not going to work.

Bob Gravline: I am Utility Shareholders of North Dakota. We speak in support of this resolution. Speaking of the regional haze issue, a number of you receive your electricity from MDU or Ottertail Power Company. They are partners in the Big Stone power plant in South Dakota. That plant was built about 30 years ago at a cost of three hundred million dollars or so. Under the regional haze rule they have determined that the Big Stone also could cause haze in parks, in Michigan, Minnesota, and the Bad lands in South Dakota. In order to correct the plant from potentially creating fifteen hours of regional haze, according the engineers of the Ottertail Power Company there cost will be near 550 to 600 million dollars. We encourage your support in this resolution.

Ron Ness: We support the comments of the previous speakers.

Rep. Keiser: Has there been any analysis done on the impact study. What would happen to the rates of the people being served by Big Stone?

Bob Gravline: It would drive the prices up considerably. I feel they are trying to abandon the plant and move to some other source of generation.

Rep. Porter: Is there any opposition to HCR 3028?

Verle Renke: I am from Bismarck. I ask that you not pass this resolution it affords us a luxury that we cannot afford to have. Climate change is real and this allows us to deny that, to think that it isn't true, think what it is doing. We are humans who are contributing to that.

Kevin Herman: I live in Beulah. I am in opposition to HCR 3028 because of one word, defunding the EPA. My question is who is going to regulate the emissions.

Rep. Porter: Is there any further testimony in opposition? We will close the hearing.

Rep. Hofstad: I make a motion to move the amendments.

Rep. DeKrey Second.

Rep. Porter: We have a motion and a second to amend line 13 to include the President of the United States, the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Majority Leader, Minority Leader and speaker of the United States House. Voice vote taken motion carried.

Rep. DeKrey: I make a motion that we do pass as amended to the consent calendar.

Rep. Brabandt: Second

Rep. Porter: All those in favor voice vote taken motion carried.
Carrier: Rep. DeKrey. We will keep it on the consent calendar.

Date: 2-10-11
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3028

House House Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Rep Hofstad Seconded By Rep DeKrey

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Porter			Rep. Hanson		
Vice Chairman Damschen			Rep. Hunskor		
Rep. Brabandt			Rep. Kelsh		
Rep. Clark			Rep. Nelson		
Rep. DeKrey					
Rep. Hofstad					
Rep. Kasper					
Rep. Keiser					
Rep. Kreun					
Rep. Nathe					
Rep. Anderson					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

voice vote taken motion carried

February 10, 2011

VK
2/10/11

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3028

Page 3, line 13, after "to" insert "the President of the United States, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Majority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 2-10-11
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3028

House House Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 11.3071.01001 title 02000

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Rep DeKrey Seconded By Rep. Brabandt

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Porter			Rep. Hanson		
Vice Chairman Damschen			Rep. Hunsakor		
Rep. Brabandt			Rep. Kelsh		
Rep. Clark			Rep. Nelson		
Rep. DeKrey					
Rep. Hofstad					
Rep. Kasper					
Rep. Keiser					
Rep. Kreun					
Rep. Nathe					
Rep. Anderson					

Total (Yes) 15 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep DeKrey

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

*voice vote taken motion carried
so consent Calendar*

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3028: Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Porter, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (15 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3028 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 3, line 13, after "to" insert "the President of the United States, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Majority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,"

Renumber accordingly

2011 SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

HCR 3028

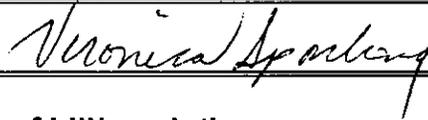
2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Natural Resources Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HCR 3028
March 11, 2011
Job #15331

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to adopt legislation prohibiting the EPA by any means necessary from regulating greenhouse emissions including, if necessary, defunding EPA greenhouse gas regulatory activities

Minutes:

Testimony Attached

Chairman Lyson opened the hearing on HCR 3028.

Sandi Tabor, representing the Lignite Energy Council, presented written testimony in favor of HCR 3028. See **Attachment #1**.

Senator Hogue: The Minnesota legislature is backing off on their restrictions on the amount of electricity that they'll import from the coal-fired plants. Can you tell me what is behind that? Do you think that will come to pass?

Sandi Tabor: Our North Dakota legislature in prior sessions has been involved in helping finance potential litigation against Minnesota if they chose not to repeal what we call the coal moratorium. It is a bill that they passed in 2007 called the Next Generation Act. In that act, effective August 2nd of 2009 no electricity from new coal-based plants could be imported into the state of Minnesota and no new power purchase agreements with plants whose resource was coal-based could be signed. The state of North Dakota through the efforts of Governor Hoeven and now Governor Dalrymple and the Attorney General have been working diligently through different forms of mediation and meetings to try to get the state of Minnesota to understand the folly in that bill. With the elections in November a Republican majority in both the House and the Senate were elected. Those Republican majorities understand the economic consequences of that Next Generation Act on the state of Minnesota. They are working hard to try to remove that moratorium language. There were two bills, one in the House and one in the Senate, that have been successfully passed. We believe there will be floor votes on both bills within the next two weeks. There is a concerted effort by many different groups in Minnesota to convince the governor that the signing of these bills is something that would be good for the economy of Minnesota. The efforts in Minnesota are to some degree bipartisan. We are hoping that the democrats in the rural parts of Minnesota will understand the importance of having low cost energy

supplied by our coal-fired plants in North Dakota and that they will recognize it is important to support both of those bills.

Senator Schneider: Does the Lignite Energy Council provide testimony before the EPA passes new regulations?

Sandi Tabor: Yes, on major notices of proposed rules we have been filing comments. With one of the proposed rules, if passed, a new standard would be set that would be unattainable for 96% of the monitored counties in the United States. It's hard to understand ratcheting the standard to a point that most of the country is in a position to not be in compliance with the Clean Air Act.

Senator Schneider: When you do provide your thoughts to the EPA by filing comments, are they responsive?

Sandi Tabor: To be fair, for an example on the proposed coal combustion rules there were 450,000 comments filed. They can't respond to all of the comments they receive.

Dan Wogsland, Executive Director of North Dakota Grain Growers Association, stood in support of HCR 3028. Yesterday he attended a meeting in Denver about air quality and EPA standards. The EPA wants to make tillage dust, harvest dust and dust from cows walking in a pasture, equal to cigarette smoke as far as health hazards. HCR 3028 is an important step to say to the US Congress and to the government that these regulations can't be complied with and they can't be enforced. They also don't have a measurable impact to improve the quality of health of the people of the United States. To address Senator Schneider's question, the ND Grain Growers every year for over a decade have invited the EPA in for what they call the E tour. It is their environmental tour. They are proud of their state and their environmental record. They want to show the EPA what is going on in the real world.

David Straley, representing North American Coal, Falkirk Mining Company, Kito Properties Company, and North American Coal Royalty Company signed the register in support of HCR 3028.

Sheyna Strommen, representing the ND Stockman's Association: The EPA's attempt to control dust would not be beneficial to human health but would create more nonattainment areas for the nation. The dust from cattle walking across fields, and regulating cow flatulence are just two examples of what the EPA is trying to regulate that would be unattainable. She stood in support of HCR 3028.

Brian McGinness, a farmer and past teacher, presented written testimony in opposition to HCR 3028. See **Attachment #2**.

Jonathan Bry from Bismarck stood in opposition to HCR 3028. He feels the water and air quality are at risk unless there are regulations from the EPA. He took issue with the words in HCR 3028 that said there hadn't been studies done to prove that the emissions are having an effect on the environment. He had a press release about the EPA's findings in

2009. See **Attachment #3**. He referred to the state of Massachusetts taking the EPA to court and he didn't see any difference between that and what HCR 3028 is trying to do.

Kris Kitco, a folksinger/songwriter and public commentator from Bismarck presented written testimony in opposition to HCR 3028. See **Attachment #4**.

Karen Van Fossan, a spokesperson for the North Dakota Peace Coalition, presented written testimony in opposition to HCR 3028. See **Attachment #5**.

Senator Burckhard: Who are the underserved children you work with?

Karen Van Fossan: I work with children who have survived sexual assault, children who have autism, etc.

Ashley Lauth, Oil and Gas Organizer for Dakota Resource Council, presented written testimony in opposition to HCR 3028. See **Attachment #6**.

Senator Burckhard: Would you agree that our country imports too much oil and our national economy is in trouble?

Ashley Lauth: I can't make a qualitative statement not having the numbers on domestic production versus foreign importation.

Senator Schneider: Do you see any opportunities for growth in creating jobs with renewable energy?

Ashley Lauth: Yes.

Angie Swiec Kambeitz works as a yoga teacher. She spoke in opposition to HCR 3028. See **Attachment # 7**.

Carol Kitko stood in opposition to HCR 3028. She is concerned that we are giving top consideration to the growth of the energy industry rather than to the quality of our air. She feels the state is not able to adequately regulate itself and feels the EPA will do a better job of regulating the quality of the air and water.

Chairman Lyson closed the hearing on HCR 3028.

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Natural Resources Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HCR 3028
March 17, 2011
Job # 15624

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Veronica Spurling

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to adopt legislation prohibiting the EPA by any means necessary from regulating greenhouse emissions including, if necessary, defunding EPA greenhouse gas regulatory activities

Minutes:

No Attachments

Chairman Lyson opened the discussion on HCR 3028.

There was no action taken.

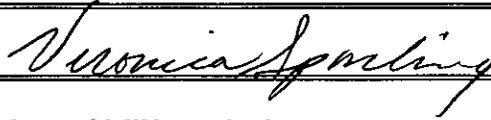
2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Natural Resources Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HCR 3028
March 24, 2011
Job # 15934

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to adopt legislation prohibiting the EPA by any means necessary from regulating greenhouse emissions including, if necessary, defunding EPA greenhouse gas regulatory activities

Minutes:

No Attachments

Chairman Lyson opened the discussion on HCR 3028.

Senator Triplett: Are there any amendments to clean the language up?

Senator Triplett: Do Not Pass motion

Senator Schneider: Second

There was discussion about the merits of changing the language of the resolution, especially taking out some of the charged phrases. It would strengthen the resolution to do so.

Roll Call Vote: 1-6-0

The motion failed.

Senator Triplett was asked to craft amendments for the resolution.

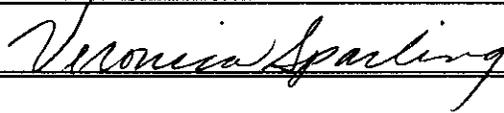
2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Natural Resources Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HCR 3028
March 25, 2011
Job #16000

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to adopt legislation prohibiting the EPA by any means necessary from regulating greenhouse emissions including, if necessary, defunding EPA greenhouse gas regulatory activities

Minutes:

One Attachment

Chairman Lyson opened the discussion on HCR 3028. There was a Do Not Pass motion on this one and it failed 1-6.

Senator Hogue: Senator Triplett was going to make some amendments to this bill.

Senator Schneider proposed an amendment (see vote sheet #1 for March 25th).

Senator Uglem: Second

The motion carried by voice vote.

The motion and the second were **withdrawn**.

Senator Triplett made a motion to adopt amendment 11.3071.02001. See Attachment #1.

Senator Schneider: Second

Motion carried by voice vote.

Senator Hogue made a Do Pass as Amended motion.

Senator Burckhard: Second

Discussion: Senator Triplett: What the EPA is doing is at the behest of the Supreme Court. Congress ordered the EPA to make findings about greenhouse gases and gave them authority to do that. The EPA is just following the law.

Roll Call Vote: 5-2-0

Carrier: Senator Burckhard.

Date: 3-24-11
Roll Call Vote # 1

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3028

Senate Natural Resources Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Triplet Seconded By Schneider

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Lyson		✓	Senator Schneider		✓
Vice-Chair Hogue		✓	Senator Triplet	✓	
Senator Burckhard		✓			
Senator Freborg		✓			
Senator Uglem		✓			

Total (Yes) 1 No 6

Absent 0

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

motion failed

Date: 3-25-11
Roll Call Vote # 1

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3028

Senate Natural Resources Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Schneider Seconded By Uglen

Carried by voice vote

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Lyson			Senator Schneider		
Vice-Chair Hogue			Senator Triplett		
Senator Burckhard					
Senator Freborg					
Senator Uglen					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

*Motion & Second
Withdrawn*

*add word "lawful"
after "any" on page 1, line 2
& on page 2, line 28
and to every reference sum*

March 24, 2011

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 3028

Page 1, line 2, after "any" insert "legal"

Page 1, line 2, remove "necessary"

Page 1, line 5, after "any" insert "legal"

Page 1, line 5, remove "necessary"

Page 1, line 5, after "those" insert "regulations"

Page 1, line 6, remove ", including defunding"

Page 1, line 7, remove "Environmental Protection Agency air quality regulatory activities"

Page 1, line 17, remove "become known as the "train wreck" because of the"

Page 1, line 18, replace "because of the potentially devastating" with "may have negative"

Page 1, line 18, remove "this"

Page 1, line 19, remove "regulatory activity may have"

Page 2, line 28, after "any" insert "legal"

Page 2, line 28, remove "necessary"

Page 3, line 1, remove the second comma

Page 3, line 2, remove "including defunding Environmental Protection Agency air quality
regulatory activities"

Re-number accordingly

Date: 3-25-11
Roll Call Vote # 2

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3028

Senate Natural Resources Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 11, 3071 02001

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Triplet Seconded By Schneider

carried by voice vote

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Lyson			Senator Schneider		
Vice-Chair Hogue			Senator Triplet		
Senator Burckhard					
Senator Freborg					
Senator Uglem					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Date: 3-25-11
Roll Call Vote # 3

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3028

Senate Natural Resources Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Hogue Seconded By Burckhard

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Lyson	✓		Senator Schneider	✓	
Vice-Chair Hogue	✓		Senator Triplett		✓
Senator Burckhard	✓				
Senator Freborg		✓			
Senator Uglem	✓				

Total (Yes) 5 No 2

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Burckhard

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3028, as engrossed: Natural Resources Committee (Sen. Lyson, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HCR 3028 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 2, after "any" insert "legal"

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Page 1, line 17, remove "become known as the "train wreck" because of the"

Page 1, line 18, replace "because of the potentially devastating" with "may have negative"

Page 1, line 18, remove "this"

Page 1, line 19, remove "regulatory activity may have"

Page 2, line 28, after "any" insert "legal"

Page 2, line 28, remove "necessary"

Page 3, line 1, remove the second comma

Page 3, line 2, remove "including defunding Environmental Protection Agency air quality regulatory activities"

Renumber accordingly

2011 TESTIMONY

HCR 3028

**Testimony on HCR 3028
Presented by Sandi Tabor
Lignite Energy Council**

February 10, 2011

House Concurrent Resolution 3028 encourages Congress to adopt legislation prohibiting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from regulating greenhouse gas emissions and to impose a moratorium on the adoption of any new air quality regulations, except those addressing an imminent health or environmental emergency, for at least two years.

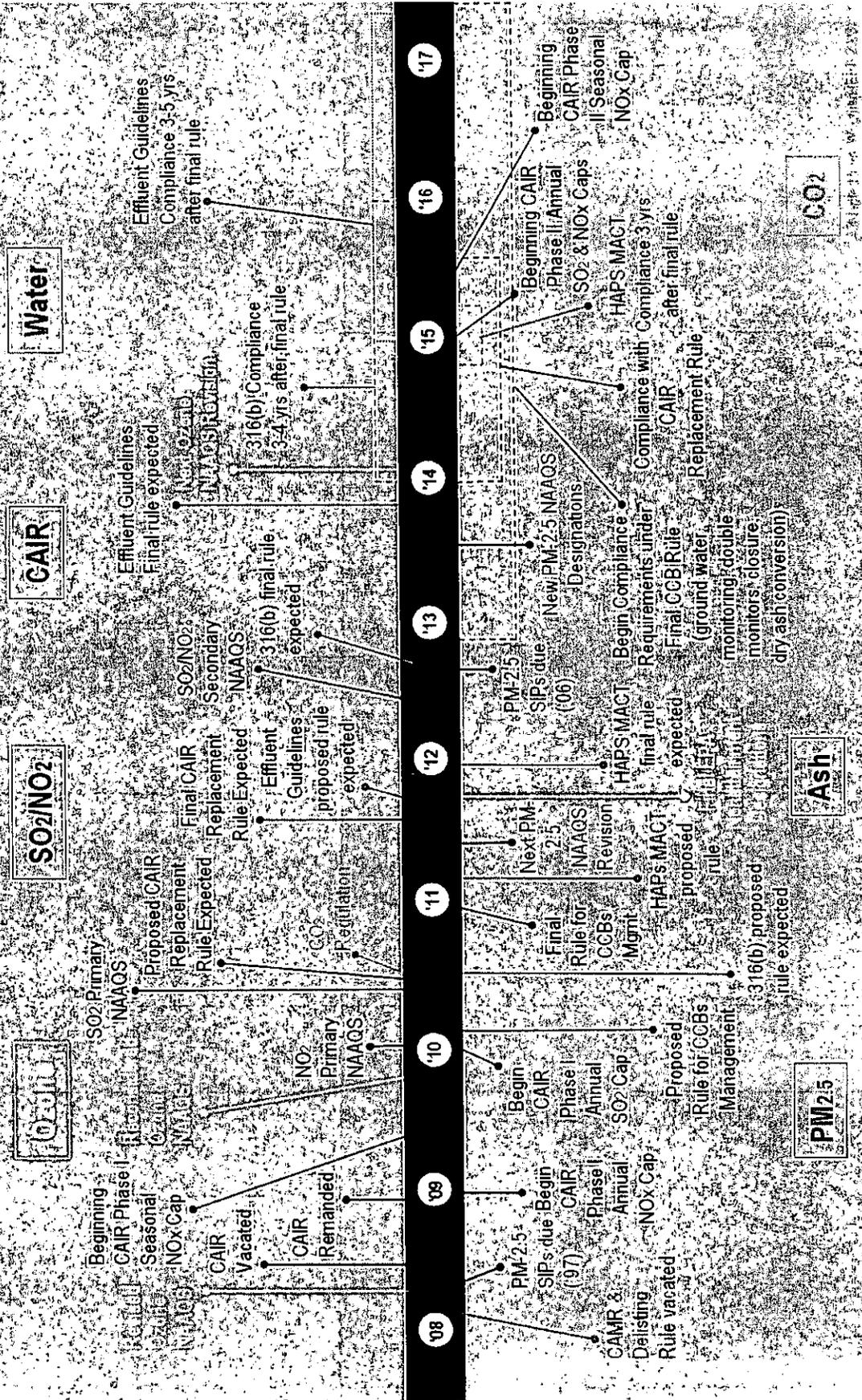
The basis for the resolution is a concern that the EPA is an agency running out-of-control. I have included on page two of my testimony the "train wreck" chart that shows the EPA's regulatory agenda through 2016. The chart reflects a series of rule-making ventures directed at making air quality, hazardous waste and water quality standards more stringent without taking into consideration 1) the actual standards needed in various regions of the country; 2) the economic impact of the new standards; and 3) the commercial availability of technology to meet the new standards.

Some of the Lignite Energy Council's most immediate concerns include the announcement by EPA that they will release the next phase of regulations on greenhouse gas emissions in July 2011. New proposed mercury regulations are scheduled to be released in March, and the EPA says that it will decide whether health concerns justify changes to the air quality standards for particulates ... that is dust and soot ... sometime this month. We await the EPA's release of new rules regarding Ozone and coal combustion byproducts. The list appears to be endless.

The resolution sends a clear message to our Congressional delegation that they should actively engage in stopping the train until such time as the EPA **properly** analyzes costs associated with regulations and carefully balances those costs against the **actual** health benefits that may be achieved by the regulations.

The Lignite Energy Council urges a **do pass** recommendation on HCR 3028.

Environmental Regulatory Timeline for Coal Units



Source: EPA, 2008

11

**Testimony on HCR 3028
Presented by Sandi Tabor
Lignite Energy Council**

March 11, 2011

House Concurrent Resolution 3028 encourages Congress to adopt legislation prohibiting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from regulating greenhouse gas emissions and to impose a moratorium on the adoption of any new air quality regulations, except those addressing an imminent health or environmental emergency, for at least two years.

The basis for the resolution is a concern that the EPA is an agency running out-of-control. I have included on page two of my testimony the "train wreck" chart that shows the EPA's regulatory agenda through 2016. The chart reflects a series of rule-making ventures directed at making air quality, hazardous waste and water quality standards more stringent without taking into consideration 1) the actual standards needed in various regions of the country; 2) the economic impact of the new standards; and 3) the commercial availability of technology to meet the new standards.

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The resolution sends a clear message to our Congressional delegation that they should actively engage in stopping the train until such time as the EPA **properly** analyzes costs associated with regulations and carefully balances those costs against the **actual** health benefits that may be achieved by the regulations.

The Lignite Energy Council urges a **do pass** recommendation on HCR 3028.

HCR 3028¹

My name is Brian McGinness. I am a full-time farmer, former science teacher, husband and father of two children ages 7 and 5. I come here of my own free will, guided only by my good conscience, sense of justice, and scientific training.

Resolution #3028 is a corporate funded assault on the people of North Dakota. Despite what you might be hearing on Fox News or from fossil fuel lobbying groups, our consumption of fossil fuels is having a dramatic effect upon the global environment. The science is very clear, very sound and overwhelming. Here is an analogy: Science has demonstrated that there is a link between smoking cigarettes and getting lung cancer. This has not been "proven", because the mechanisms are complex and don't lend themselves to repeatable experiments. Now, given our scientific understanding about the link between smoking and lung cancer, even acknowledging its shortcomings, does it seem reasonable to encourage your children to smoke? Neglecting to take action now to reverse the impact that our addiction to fossil fuels is having on our climate would be shameful. This resolution 3028 is about protecting the profits of large corporations at the expense of everyone else.

Not coincidentally, the same national corporate funded group that crafted this resolution, the American Legislative Exchange Council, also fought alongside R.J. Reynolds to create legislation to keep our children smoking cigarettes. Ironic.

I for one will not stand by while the interests of the very wealthy, greedy or easily manipulated stand in the way of the interests of the people. Don't be fooled! Wake up! You do not need *unregulated* coal and oil extraction to provide you with a job or a vote. There are ways to make a living while making a positive contribution to our society and the future of our state. To be a republican does not mean that you have to be a stooge to corporate interests. They are making the very same argument that allowed them to create our financial crisis. The very same argument that is making most of us poorer, taking our power away, taking away our rights, our democratic freedoms while they are getting wealthier, more powerful, more brazen in their attacks on our democracy. "Deregulate," they say. "Let us through. We'll take care of this." Well, history has shown that time and time again, they take care of themselves. We need to take care of *ourselves* by exercising our democratic rights to regulate polluters. A vote for resolution #3028 is a vote against democracy and the long term interests of our state.

Thank you for defeating this resolution!

EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency

[A-Z index](#)

News Releases By Date

EPA Finds Greenhouse Gases Pose Threat to Public Health, Welfare / Proposed Finding Comes in Response to 2007 Supreme Court Ruling

Release date: 04/17/2009

Contact Information: Cathy Milbourn, 202-564-4355 / 7849 / milbourn.cathy@epa.gov; En español: Lina Younes, 202-564-4355 / younes.lina@epa.gov

(Washington, D.C. – April 17, 2009) After a thorough scientific review ordered in 2007 by the U.S. Supreme Court, the Environmental Protection Agency issued a proposed finding Friday that greenhouse gases contribute to air pollution that may endanger public health or welfare.

The proposed finding, which now moves to a public comment period, identified six greenhouse gases that pose a potential threat.

"This finding confirms that greenhouse gas pollution is a serious problem now and for future generations. Fortunately, it follows President Obama's call for a low carbon economy and strong leadership in Congress on clean energy and climate legislation," said Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. "This pollution problem has a solution – one that will create millions of green jobs and end our country's dependence on foreign oil."

As the proposed endangerment finding states, "In both magnitude and probability, climate change is an enormous problem. The greenhouse gases that are responsible for it endanger public health and welfare within the meaning of the Clean Air Act."

EPA's proposed endangerment finding is based on rigorous, peer-reviewed scientific analysis of six gases – carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride – that have been the subject of intensive analysis by scientists around the world. The science clearly shows that concentrations of these gases are at unprecedented levels as a result of human emissions, and these high levels are very likely the cause of the increase in average temperatures and other changes in our climate.

The scientific analysis also confirms that climate change impacts human health in several ways. Findings from a recent EPA study titled "Assessment of the Impacts of Global Change on Regional U.S. Air Quality: A Synthesis of Climate Change Impacts on Ground-Level Ozone," for example, suggest that climate change may lead to higher concentrations of ground-level ozone, a harmful pollutant. Additional impacts of climate change include, but are not limited to:

- increased drought;
- more heavy downpours and flooding;
- more frequent and intense heat waves and wildfires;
- greater sea level rise;
- more intense storms; and
- harm to water resources, agriculture, wildlife and ecosystems.

In issuing the finding, Administrator Jackson also took into account the disproportionate impact climate change has on the health of certain segments of the population, such as the poor, the very young, the elderly, those already in poor health, the disabled, those living alone and/or indigenous populations dependent on one or a few resources.

HER 3028

In addition to threatening human health, the analysis finds that climate change also has serious national security implications. Consistent with this proposed finding, in 2007, 11 retired U.S. generals and admirals signed a report from the Center for Naval Analysis stating that climate change "presents significant national security challenges for the United States." Escalating violence in destabilized regions can be incited and fomented by an increasing scarcity of resources – including water. This lack of resources, driven by climate change patterns, then drives massive migration to more stabilized regions of the world.

The proposed endangerment finding now enters the public comment period, which is the next step in the deliberative process EPA must undertake before issuing final findings. Today's proposed finding does not include any proposed regulations. Before taking any steps to reduce greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act, EPA would conduct an appropriate process and consider stakeholder input. Notwithstanding this required regulatory process, both President Obama and Administrator Jackson have repeatedly indicated their preference for comprehensive legislation to address this issue and create the framework for a clean energy economy.

More information: <http://epa.gov/climatechange/endangerment.html>

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#4

March 10, 2011

The Honorable Stanley Lyson

Natural Resources Committee

RE: Opposition to HCR 3028

Chairman Lyson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kris Kitko; I am a folksinger/songwriter and public commentator living in Bismarck. I am also member of Bakken Watch, a grassroots organization of citizens concerned about the health effects of oil and gas development in North Dakota.

Why would any North Dakotan want to “adopt legislation prohibiting the Environmental Protection Agency by any means necessary from regulating greenhouse emissions”?

According to Lynn Helms, director for the North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources, “It’s a fire drill every day.” These words refer to the fact that the Department has a severe shortage of inspectors. He also has said that we have “hundreds of unreported spills and thousands of unmonitored sites” in North Dakota. There were 614 reported spills last year. If there were, say, 200 unreported spills, that’s about 800 total spills per year, if we use conservative figures.

And then there is the issue of waste water. According to Mr. Helms, 330,000 barrels of waste water are disposed of daily in waste water wells in North Dakota. David Glatt, environmental director with the state Health Department says, “Handling and moving it [waste water] are the main times when there are going to be spills.” So with 330,000 barrels of toxic water moving daily, thousands of unmonitored sites, hundreds of spills—along with constant use of hydraulic fracturing and its hundreds of chemicals—why wouldn’t we want the EPA to help protect the people of North Dakota by regulating emissions?

We also heard testimony last week about how our deep shale formations prevent these toxic chemicals from entering our water supply during fracking. But it’s not the shale that stands between us and these chemicals; it’s just cement. These chemicals are sent with very high pressure through cement to the Bakken shale and then brought back to the surface. These chemicals pass right through our aquifer through cement-lined wells. The integrity of these cement structures depends on perfect mixing, pouring, and maintenance. Can we say with certainty that these unmonitored sites will not crack or leak these gases and chemicals—emissions—into our clean air or water? Why would we jeopardize the health and safety of our people by prohibiting the EPA from regulating these gases when we know toxic chemicals pass directly through our aquifers protected only by cement casings, which degrade over time?

HCR 3028

And what are these chemicals? What are these emissions? Last week, Mr. Helms stated that the state has access to every chemical used in hydraulic fracturing. What we didn't hear is that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires product manufacturers to include certain elements in Material Safety Data Sheets, but manufacturers are not required to submit the Data Sheets to OSHA for approval before attaching them to their products. So if a company lists a compound as "gel" and considers this "gel" mixture proprietary, the state still does not know the exact chemicals used. So accuracy and completeness are entirely up to the company that produces the Data Sheets. I am holding Material Data Safety Sheets from companies using these chemicals in the oil patch in North Dakota. We were told that these chemicals are, for the most part, safe and can be found in our soaps and laxatives. Here is a sheet containing information about ammonium persulfate: "Danger! Strong oxidizer. Contact with other material may cause fire, etc." And here's information about formic acid: "Danger! Corrosive. Liquid and mist cause severe burns to all body tissue. May be fatal if swallowed, etc." Hauling hundreds—thousands—of buckets of these chemicals and mixing them in our environment is not the same as making a bar of soap or downing a shot of Metamucil. Since the state acknowledges that it doesn't have the ability to keep track of all these activities with toxic chemicals and their emissions, I, as a resident of North Dakota, want the EPA to help protect me and my fellow North Dakotans.

If someone who promotes rapid oil and gas development should ask you, "Who would you believe? Representatives who work in the field and hold expertise in oil and gas development, or someone off the street who may have collected her information from newspaper reports or college professors?" My answer would be that I would listen to the person who has nothing to gain from oil and gas development and no position of power or wealth to lose by making sure it's done safely.

I urge you to recommend "do not pass" on HCR 3028.

#5

March 11, 2011

Chair Lyson and Members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee:

My name is Karen Van Fossan. I am a teacher of under-served children, and I also serve as spokesperson for the North Dakota Peace Coalition.

The North Dakota Peace Coalition opposes HCR 3028 on a number of grounds and urges you to make a Do Not Pass recommendation.

First, the Coalition sees no reason to object to the role of the Environmental Protection Agency in protecting air and water quality for North Dakotans – or in regulating greenhouse gas emissions in our state. Paying North Dakota taxes, carrying North Dakota driver's licenses, or attending elementary school in North Dakota should be no reason to be denied protection from greenhouse gas pollution. As North Dakotans, we should be afforded the same fundamental human rights that the rest of the country enjoys.

Second, the Coalition rejects the claim that EPA regulation – or any effort to attend to the environment – plays a harmful role in the economy. Healthy people perform better, spend less time away from work, and save significant dollars on medical and insurance costs. In 2010 alone, the Clean Air Act prevented 13 million lost work days, 1.7 million asthma attacks, and 130,000 heart attacks. Indeed, the green jobs industry is booming; the clean energy economy has grown by over 9% in ten years, outpacing other fields. Both the Bush and Obama administrations have supported the green economy, and these efforts deserve our attention and respect.

Third, the Coalition suggests that our nation has a clear and accessible means of balancing the federal budget and dramatically reducing spending – without any need to de-fund the EPA. As we are all aware, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have a price tag of \$1 trillion and growing. This figure defies imagination. The cost of these wars now totals more than \$1 billion for North Dakota taxpayers alone. We could bring our troops home and preserve their lives, while beginning to gain control of our national deficit. With the money we've spent on these wars, we could have put every single unemployed American to work – many of them in green jobs – with more than \$200 billion left over. Here in North Dakota, there is wide support for prompt troop withdrawal – from the North Dakota Veterans Coordinating Committee, the North Dakota Catholic Conference, and of course, the North Dakota Peace Coalition. We don't have to cut the EPA to cut federal spending.

Finally, the Coalition takes exception to the notion that the EPA should be barred “by any means necessary” from regulating greenhouse gas emissions in North Dakota. What does “by any means necessary” mean? Arrests at the airport, blockades of I-94, imprisonment of EPA officials? What costs would North Dakotans incur if our state government should invest in such means? The members of the North Dakota Peace Coalition are proud Americans – they have no interest in prohibiting an American entity from doing its job in the state of North Dakota.

The Coalition urges you to make a Do Not Pass recommendation on HCR 3028. Thank you.

Testimony for Ashley Lauth, Oil and Gas Organizer for Dakota Resource Council, in Opposition to HCR 3028
Senate Natural Resource Committee, March 11th, 2011

**NOTE: The sections highlighted in yellow are the sections that were read out-loud in the committee hearing.*

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, for the record my name is Ashley Lauth, I am the oil and gas organizer for Dakota Resource Council. I work with farmers, ranchers, landowners, and mineral owners on responsible oil and gas development issues in North Dakota.

Dakota Resource Council urges a 'Do Not Pass' recommendation for HCR 3028.

This resolution weakens environmental regulations, including the Clean Air Act, at the federal and state level, targets EPA's regulations for greenhouse gas emissions, and outlines strategies for evading climate change mitigation, including increasing frivolous and unnecessary regulatory review in an effort to slow down implementation.

EPA's legal authority to regulate GHG emissions stems from the Supreme Court decision in Massachusetts v. EPA (2007). The Supreme Court ruled that GHGs, such as carbon dioxide, meet the definition of air pollutants under the existing Clean Air Act (the Act) and therefore must be regulated if they threaten harm to public health or welfare. Based on the Supreme Court's decision and its assessment of scientific evidence concerning the risks of climate change, EPA has a legal obligation to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act. In August 2009, EPA issued its review of state agencies implementation plans concerning their authority to regulate GHGs under their new source permitting programs. The vast majority of states have authority to regulate GHGs and should be ready to implement by the January 2, 2011, start date. North Dakota has been approved such authority.

Under the Clean Air Act, the "best available control technology" (BACT) requirements for a given facility are to be established in a way that addresses the specific conditions of the facility and reflect the maximum degree of emission reduction that has been demonstrated through available methods, systems, and techniques, while accounting for the economic, energy and environmental considerations of the facility. The use of BACT to limit emissions of regulated pollutants from facilities has been part of the Clean Air Act for decades. The new EPA guidance itself is technical in nature. Most importantly, under the guidance, covered facilities will generally be required to use the most energy efficient technologies available rather than be required to install particular pollution control technologies. Overall, the BACT guidance maintains the same steps for individual BACT determination for GHGs that have long been used for BACT determination for traditional air pollutants.

Though the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) job is to put protecting public health above the cost to industry, the agency has done a cost-benefit analysis. That analysis found that the health benefits from more stringent standards could outweigh the cost of implementing pollution control plans. For example, according to Sec. 111 of the Clean Air Act, a standard for emissions of air pollutants must "reflect the degree of emission limitation achievable through application of the best system of emission reduction (taking into account the cost of achieving such reduction...) the Administrator determines has been adequately demonstrated." Thus, the statute makes it clear that only technologies that have been "adequately demonstrated" can be required under Sec. 111 and that EPA must take into account "the cost of achieving such reduction" in determining the level at which any such standard should be set. Concerns about high compliance costs at the time regulations are being prepared often prove unwarranted. For example, according to an MIT study, the actual costs of implementing the acid rain program under the Act was about 80 percent lower than originally predicted.

Contrary to assertions by industry groups, EPA is pursuing a realistic timeline over the next decade to bring the electric power industry into compliance with the law. In most cases the electric power sector has been on notice for several years (in some cases several decades) that these pollutants would be regulated. Without new regulations, these pollutants will continue to impair America's waterways, heat the planet, perpetuate acid rain, and lead to preventable hospital visits and premature deaths. In each of its rule-makings, EPA provides for an

extensive, open public process based on evidence. This leads to more robust and fair rules for the electric power sector. As EPA finalizes each rule, it will establish an increasingly clear pathway for investments in an American electric generation fleet for the 21st century.

The sky is falling argument is not new, and in fact has been used to counter almost every clean up effort. Polluters also complained in 1990 when the EPA estimated that mandated reductions in sulfur dioxide, a contributor to acid rain. A decade later, an EPA analysis showed the actual cost was billions of dollars lower. And clearly, the polluters are still around and still turning a profit. Furthermore, with higher standards, counties and metropolitan areas that strategically plan to reduce emissions from their transportation systems and power plants will not only have cleaner air, but less risk of falling into non-attainment. With less risk of non-attainment, these areas will be able to attract more business.

According to the University of Massachusetts Political Economy Research Institute (PERI), between 2010 and 2015, these capital investments in pollution controls and new generation will create an estimated 1.46 million jobs or about 291,577 year-round jobs on average for each of those five years. PERI also states that transforming to a cleaner, modern fleet through retirement of older, less efficient plants, installation of pollution controls and construction of new capacity will result in a net gain of over 4,254 operation and maintenance (O&M) jobs across the Eastern Interconnection. North Dakota is estimated to create 8,207 construction, installation, and professional job gains over 5 years and 193 O&M job gains. North Dakota is also estimated to receive \$1.1 billion in pollution controls investments, 175 megawatts in additional installed capacity, and \$454 million in new capacity investments.

The Clean Air Act has, over the last 40 years, led to the prevention of environmental-related illness including asthma and premature cardiac-related death, helped build a renewable energy sector, cleaner transportation, combatted acid rain, reduced industrial toxic air pollution, reduced skin cancer and cataracts, and spurred American technological innovation.

The new National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) issued in 2010 follow the recommendation of 1,700 scientific studies, as well as the agency's own independent scientific advisors. The medical community also supports stricter regulations, including well-respected groups like the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Lung Association, American Public Health Association, and the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America.

According to the American Lung Association State of the Air report, "Greater reductions in power plant pollution levels are essential to enable states and local governments to reduce air pollution to safe levels." Our communities are paying for the costs of smog with all these health problems. A medically defensible energy policy must take into account the public health impacts of fossil fuels while meeting our need for energy. Safeguarding clean air protection regulations could help prevent thousands of hospital visits, heart and asthma attacks and millions of missed work and school days—also saving billions in health costs.

Plus, scientific evidence shows that repeated exposure to air pollution during the growing season damages sensitive vegetation. Cumulative ozone exposure can lead to reduced tree growth; visibly injured leaves; and increased susceptibility to disease, damage from insects and harsh weather.

But air quality is not limited to electrical power stations, it also finds form in hydraulic fracturing. Natural gas is the second leading global producer of methane gas, a highly potent greenhouse gas. Methane is a known occupational hazard – in underground coal mines it may explode or asphyxiate miners. But hydraulic fracturing yields more toxins into the air than just methane.

Toxic air emissions from the drilling, production, and processing of natural gas have been extensively documented. Increases in ground-level ozone levels have been associated with oil and gas activities. Ozone is a secondary pollutant that is formed in polluted areas by atmospheric reactions involving two main types of

precursor pollutants volatile organic compounds (VOC's) and nitrogen oxides (NOx). Nitrogen oxide (NOX) is sourced from compressors and diesel engines, and volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) is sourced from the actual drilling, fracturing, and production. All three are well-established as toxic to human health, with particular regard to carcinogens and neurotoxins.

Good evidence shows that flow-back and produced water from shale layers themselves contain organic compounds that volatilize into the environment when brought to the surface and go into a frack pond-pit or impoundment where they off-gas (become a vapor in air) their organic compounds into the air. This conceptually becomes an air pollution problem, and the organic compounds are now termed Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP's). Additionally, separators, condensers, cryo plants and compressors can leak causing some volatile organic compounds to enter air.

Gas is of thermogenic or biogenic origin and stored as sorbed hydrocarbons, as free gas in fracture and intergranular porosity, and as gas dissolved in kerogen and bitumen. Each organic compound enters air according to its Henry's Law constant, its concentration in the water and its partial pressure in air.

The USGS fact sheet 2009-3032 states clearly that hydrofrack water "in close contact with the rock during the course of the stimulation treatment, and when recovered may contain a variety of formation materials, including brines, heavy metals, radionuclides, and organics." Produced waters from gas production have high contents of low molecular-weight aromatic hydrocarbons such as **benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX)**.

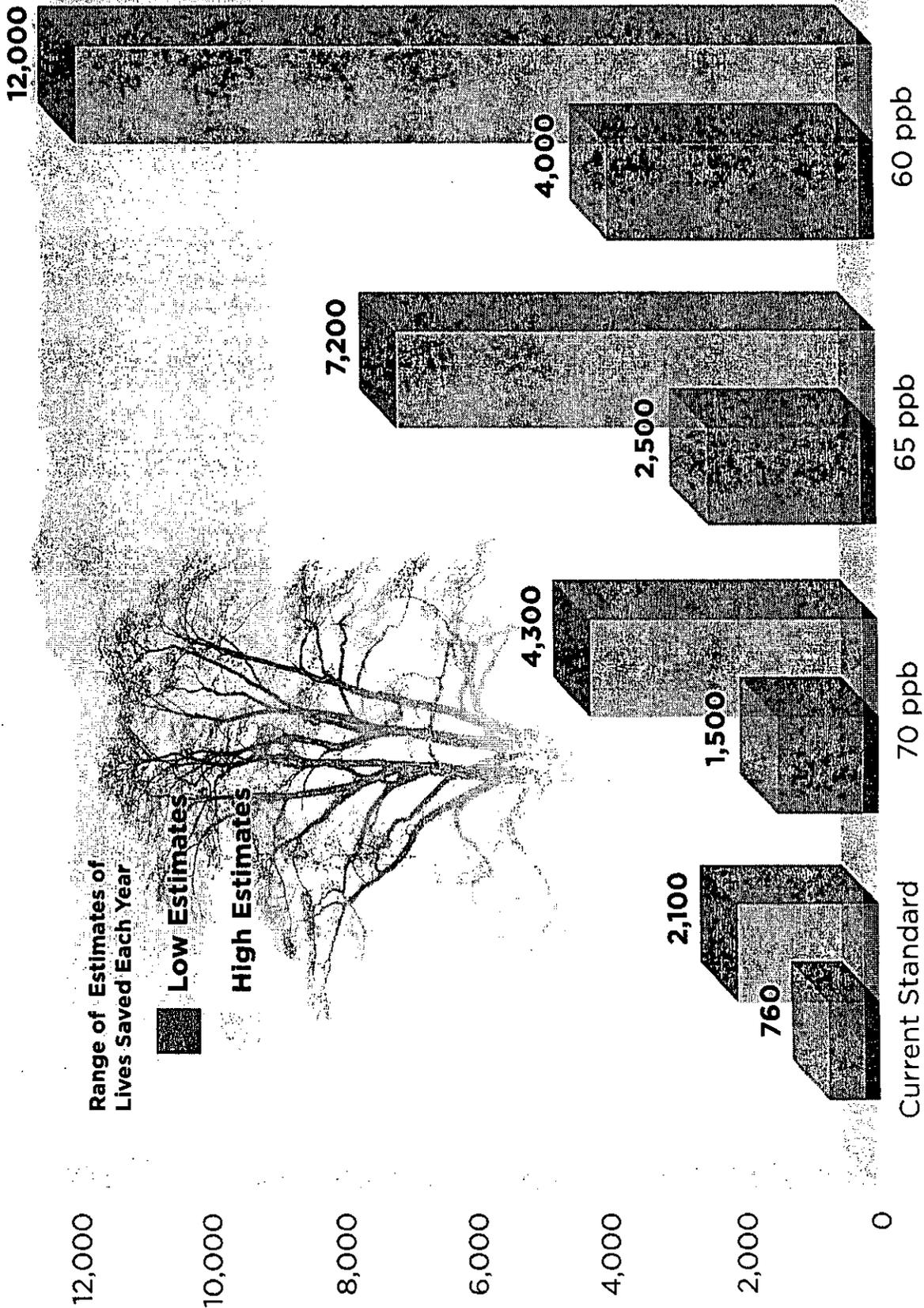
Produced water contains **aliphatic and aromatic carboxylic acids, phenols, and aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons**. They are not easily removed from produced water and are generally discharged directly into fracking ponds. Plus, chemicals are added to produced water or put into a producing well - such as corrosion and scale inhibitors, **scale solvents, biocides, antifreeze**, and oil and grease, and impurities in the chemicals used.

The chemicals that can volatilize, such as **toluene, ethylbenzene, phenol, naphthalene and 2,4-dimethylphenol**, have been found in produced water and **bis(2-ethyl-hexyl) phthalate, di-n-butyl phthalate, fluorine and diethyl phthalate** have been found in produced water by the EPA itself.

Medical conditions from these chemicals include **arrhythmia, painful rashes, weakness and fainting, violent vomiting, disorientation, leukemia, aplastic anemia, inability to clot, and damage to liver and kidneys, lungs, developing fetus, reproductive organs, nervous system, and brain**.

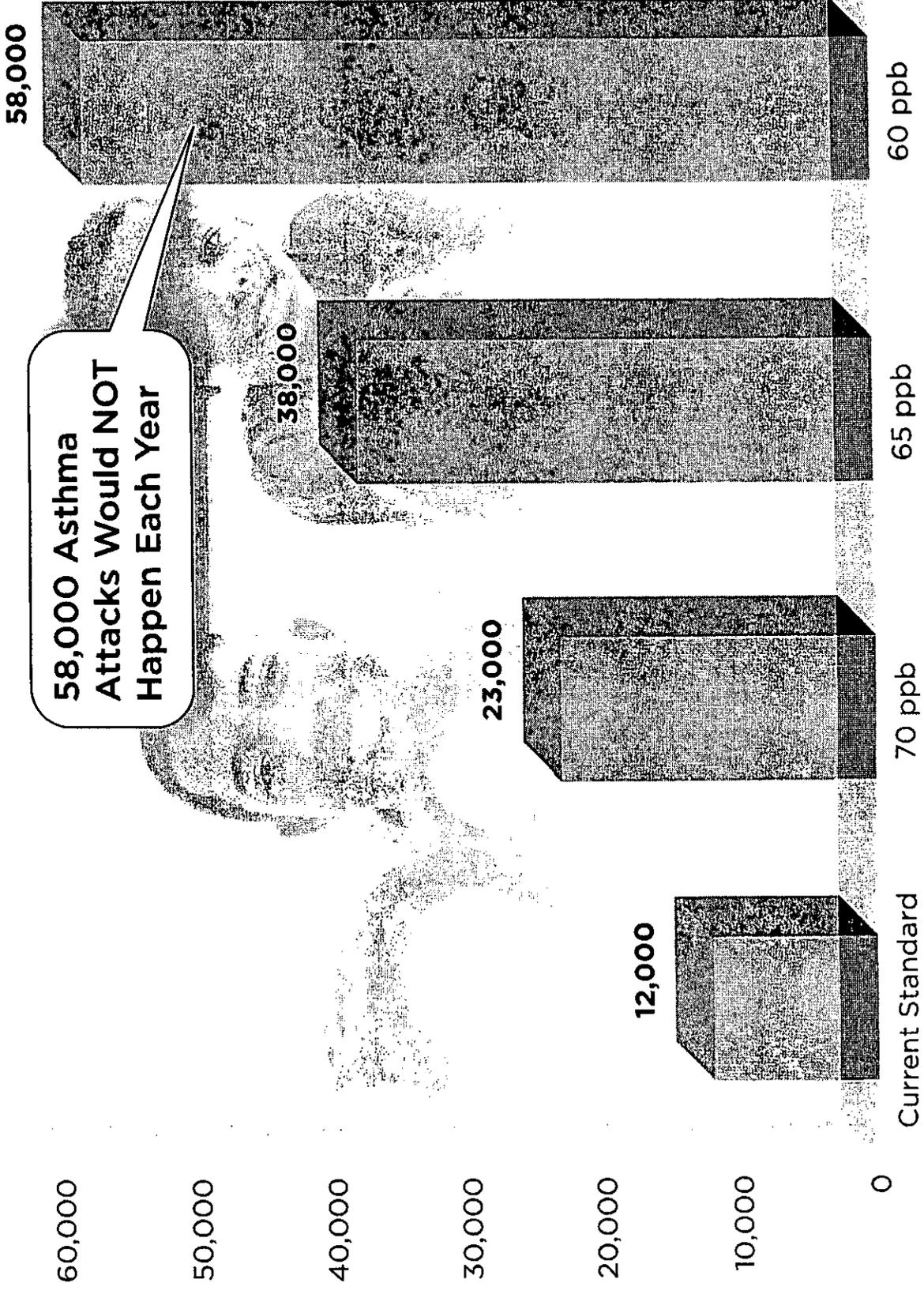
For all of the grave concerns enumerated above, Dakota Resource Council urges a 'Do Not Pass' recommendation for HCR 3028.

Stronger Standard Saves Thousands of Lives Each Year



Estimates include co-benefits from reduced particulates as well as ozone.
 SOURCE FOR ALL DATA IN FILE: US EPA (2009) Summary of the updated Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) for the Reconsideration of the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Table S1.2

Stronger Ozone Standard Prevents More Asthma Attacks

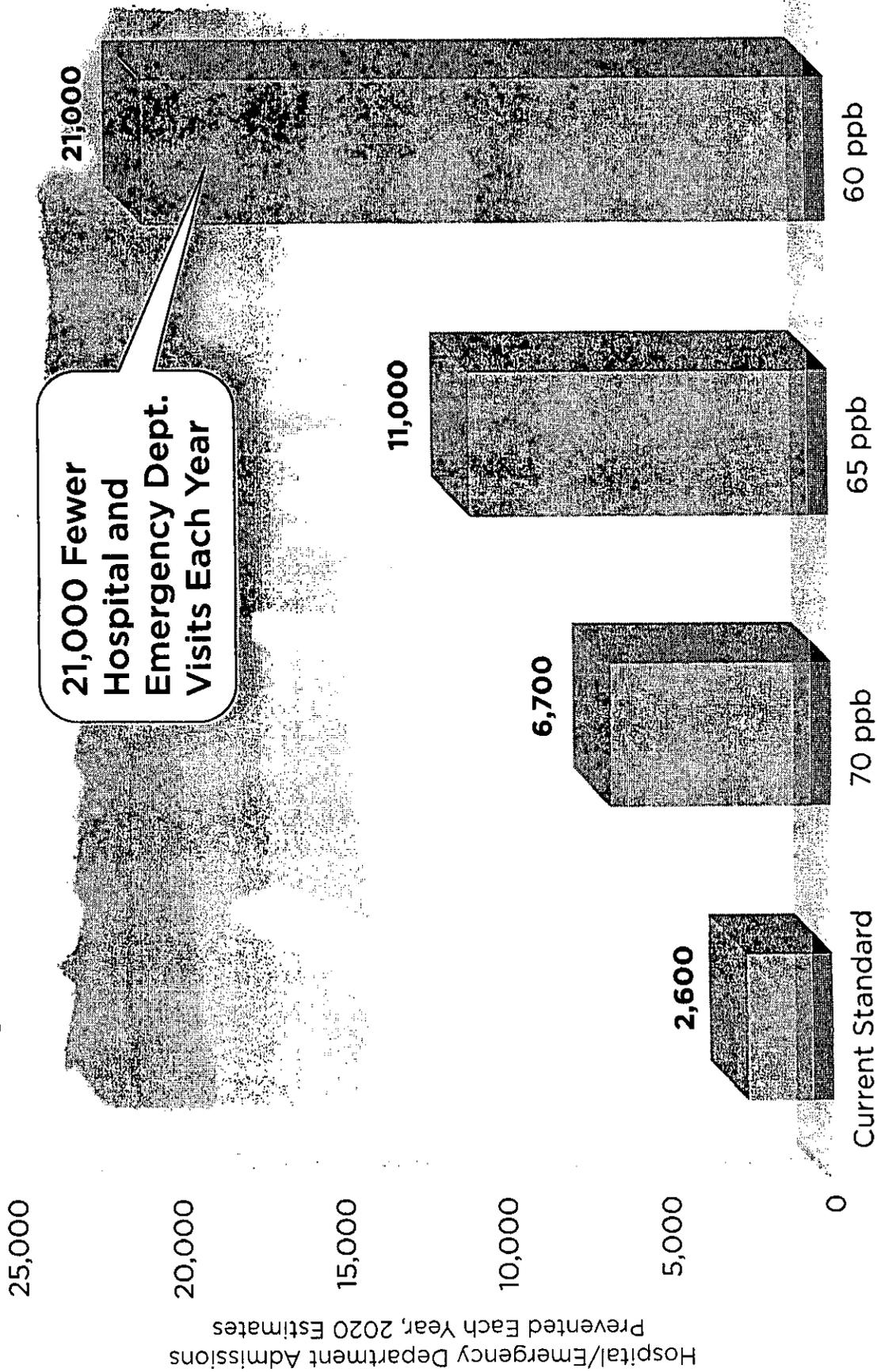


58,000 Asthma Attacks Would NOT Happen Each Year

Asthma Attacks Prevented Each Year, 2020 Estimates

Estimates include co-benefits from reduced particulates as well as ozone. SOURCE FOR ALL DATA IN FILE: US EPA (2009) Summary of the updated Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) for the Reconsideration of the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Table S1.2

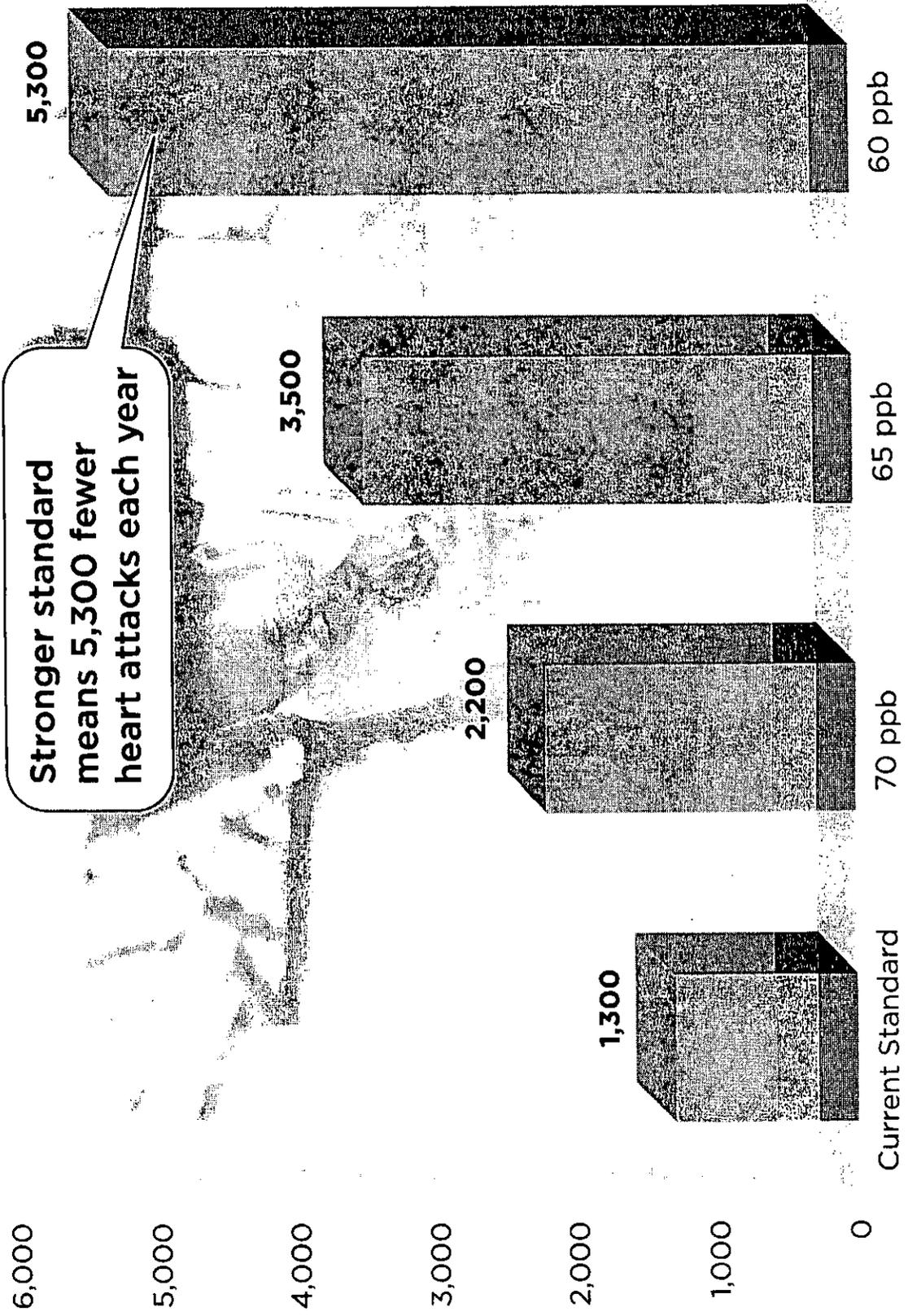
Stronger Ozone Standard Prevents Thousands of Hospital and Emergency Department Visits



21,000 Fewer Hospital and Emergency Dept. Visits Each Year

Estimates include co-benefits from reduced particulates as well as ozone.
 SOURCE FOR ALL DATA IN FILE: US EPA (2009) Summary of the updated Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) for the Reconsideration of the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Table S1.2

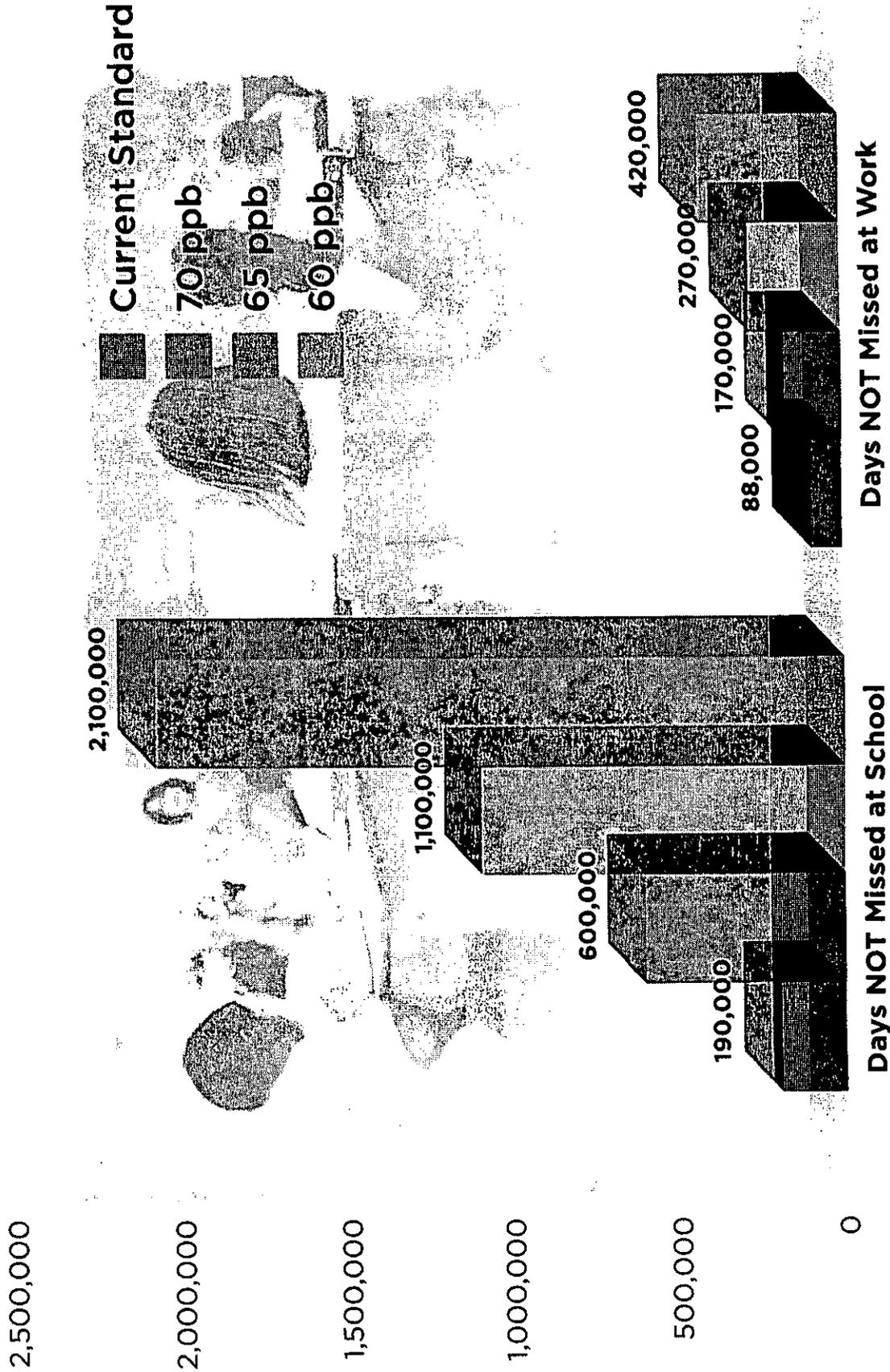
Stronger Standard Means Fewer Heart Attacks



Stronger standard means 5,300 fewer heart attacks each year

Estimates include co-benefits from reduced particulates as well as ozone.
SOURCE FOR ALL DATA IN FILE: US EPA (2009) Summary of the updated Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) for the Reconsideration of the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Table S1.2

Stronger Ozone Standard Means Fewer Days Missed at Work and School Each Year



Work or School Absences Avoided Each Year, 2020 Estimates

Estimates include co-benefits from reduced particulates as well as ozone.
 FOR ALL DATA IN FILE: US EPA (2009) Summary of the updated Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) for the
 Reconsideration of the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Table S1.2

#7

NDLA, S NAT

From: NDLA, Intern 04
Date: Monday, March 14, 2011 8:49 AM
To: NDLA, S NAT
Subject: FW: Resolution 3028
Attachments: Dear Members of the Natural Resource Committee.doc

-----Original Message-----

From: Angie Swiec [mailto:amswiec@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 12, 2011 11:02 PM
To: NDLA, Intern 04
Subject: Resolution 3028

March 11, 2011

Dear Members of the Natural Resource Committee,

I strongly urge the committee not to pass resolution 3028, which would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency by any means necessary from regulating greenhouse emissions in North Dakota.

As a health professional, massage therapist, and yoga teacher, I am concerned with health and well-being, and I greatly appreciate all the ways the EPA has made our world healthier and cleaner. In my profession I teach people to take care of their bodies, including their internal and external world. A large part of yoga is also teaching the simple process of breathing and the healing power of deep breathing. Taking a deep breath feels good, especially when we are tired or stressed out. I believe everyone can agree that breathing clean, fresh, unpolluted air is what we all desire and is one of our basic human rights. Who would choose air and water quality to be below standard for their families? That is why the EPA is so important—it guarantees standards, so private corporations don't poison the public in order to earn a few more bucks for their executives and stockholders.

I don't believe anyone wants their family to drink dirty water or breathe dirty air, and so we have water filters and air filters to clean our home environment further. But shouldn't a reliable high standard of clean air and water be guaranteed in our country. Unfortunately, without the EPA's efforts it is not. And the sad reality is that in North Dakota the air and water are not clean due in large part to the coal industry. Coal-fired power plants are major producers of harmful pollutants to our air and water such as nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxides, mercury, lead and heavy metals. Even tiny amounts of mercury, as little as 1/17th of a teaspoon is enough to contaminate a large body of water, yet coal companies release over 2,300 lbs of mercury into our air each year (according to the coal companies themselves).

Our air is polluted, our waters are polluted and who can we turn to for help? The coal companies who do the polluting? It is not in their interest to keep our environment clean, which is why an outside agency is needed. Of course, industries have become "cleaner" over the years, yet this is due to regulation set by the EPA. We need the EPA to monitor pollution levels and enforce that high standards of protection of the environment are in place. We hear people who work for the coal industry in ND repeating, "the EPA needs to keep their noses out of our business." Well, if the coal industry is following the rules, they should have nothing to hide.

Even though most of us do not call on the police regularly, we can all agree that we need a police force to protect our safety, so too we need the EPA to protect our safety and monitor polluting practices of industries so that we can live in a safe and healthy world. The EPA is not the enemy, just as the police force is not the enemy (although those breaking the law usually perceive the police as the enemy). We need to stop giving special treatment to industries that pollute our environment, and instead make them responsible for the damage they do to the health of our people and our environment. We need an agency that looks out for our well-being; the EPA is such an agency.

As a teacher of health and wellness I fully support the EPA and its desire to regulate carbon, which does harm human health. I choose to support science, instead of believing the immature and unethical attitude the coal industry is repeating.

I desire a world in which we are all safe in our environment and where we have the opportunity to become healthier by taking deep breaths of clean and non-toxic air. I believe we all have a fundamental right to a clean environment and that indeed it is what we all want. If the coal industry cannot comply, they need to be held accountable. I fully support the EPA and stricter air and water quality standards.

Sincerely,

Angie Swiec Kambeitz