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Murray Energy Corporation Comments on Oral Arguments Today Regarding the Obama Administration's Illegal and Destructive So-Called Clean Power Plan

The oral arguments today, in the case styled *Murray Energy Corporation v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*, pending before the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, are a vitally important step toward the complete invalidation of the Obama Administration's illegal and destructive so-called Clean Power Plan ("CPP" or "Rule"), which will completely destroy the United States coal industry, and unconstitutionally usurp the rights of the States, for no environmental benefit whatsoever.

Our arguments have outlined each and every irreparable flaw in this illegal Rule. Indeed, the Supreme Court of the United States agreed with our arguments when, on February 9, 2016, they issued a Nationwide stay of the CPP, in the lawsuit led by Murray Energy Corporation ("Murray Energy").

The attorneys general from twenty-nine (29) states also determined that this CPP is illegal, and joined us in this litigation. We are pleased to have their support, particularly with the leadership of West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey.

Mr. Robert E. Murray, the Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Murray Energy stated, "To date, President Obama and his supporters have closed 411 coal-fired power generating units, totaling 101,000 megawatts, all for absolutely no environmental benefit. Their CPP will eliminate 49,000 additional megawatts of coal-fired generation at an increased wholesale electricity cost of \$214 billion between 2022 and 2030 and increase electricity rates up to thirty-one percent (31%) in one-half of our states."

Mr. Murray continued, stating that "Reliable, low cost electricity is a staple of life today, but it is being destroyed by this illegal Rule. This destruction has progressed to the point that our citizens on fixed incomes will not be able to pay their electric bills, and manufacturers, whose products must compete in the global marketplace, will be forced out of business."

Mr. Murray further stated that, "This is a political power grab of America's power grid. We hope that the Court follows the law and completely invalidates this illegal and very damaging Rule. Indeed, a legal victory today is vitally important to protect the jobs and family livelihoods of thousands of coal miners, the jobs and family livelihoods that depend on them, and low-cost electricity for all Americans."

Murray Energy Corporation Press Release
September 27, 2016
Page 2

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