

**TRI-STAR MINING, INC.
2278 MICHAEL ROAD
PO BOX 339
BARTON, MD 21521
PHONE (301) 463-6660
FAX (301) 463-2744**

February 17, 2020

Chairman
Senate Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Without the Maryland Coal Tax Credit program Tri-Star Mining, Inc. will find it very hard to survive financially. With today's financial hardships, small businesses will be unable to meet the increasing demand of operating expenses. Every year the cost of insurance, taxes, fuel, blasting material, etc. increases. Without these extra perks to help with these demands, small businesses will find it very hard to operate.

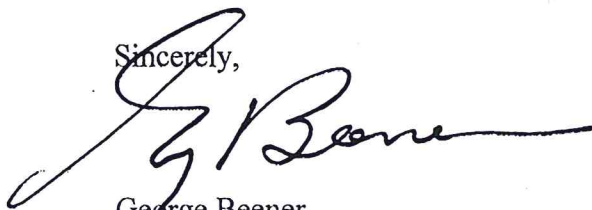
With so many businesses struggling today to stay afloat, we hope that you will consider the affect this will have not only on Tri-Star Mining, Inc. and their families, but also the many other businesses supported by Tri-Star Mining, Inc.

After factoring in all issues, we as a company hope that you will take all things into consideration before making a rash decision such as eliminating the Maryland Coal Tax Credit program. Such a decision could have major repercussions on today's already unstable economy.

Therefore if this Coal Tax Credit should go away; the door would be open for out of state businesses to sell their coal within Maryland. This would result in less and less taxes to be collected within the state which would take away from the up keep of multiple resources at County and State levels.

The Producers / Receivers o the Maryland Tax Credit is - MARYLAND HELPING MARYLAND.

Sincerely,



George Beener
President



Town of Midland
19823 Big Lane, SW
Midland, MD 21532

Mayor
Richard M. Blair

Town Meeting 7:30
1st Monday of Month

Member Maryland Municipal League

Town Council:
Gerald Gray
Michael McGowan, II
John R. Monahan
Nellie R. Tighe

Town Administrator
Craig W. Alexander

Town Clerk
Edward J. Baker

Town Treasurer
John G. Cullen

February 17, 2020

The Honorable Adrienne Jones, Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
State House, H-101
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Maryland -Mined Coal Tax Credit -Repeal

Dear Speaker Jones:

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Midland are strongly opposed to any attempt to advance the repeal of the Maryland Mined Coal Tax Credit. Coal mining in the George's Creek region of Allegany County is an essential component of our local economy, and provides many well paying jobs for our residents. Repealing the tax credit will have a negative impact on many small businesses in our community which depend on mining activity as their primary source of commercial support. As we have stated previously, this proposal not only threatens our local economy, but it will directly impact the funding method by which the state relies to restore properties which were once mined and never reclaimed.

Speaker Jones and House of Delegates members, the Mayor and Town Council respectfully request that you continue to support the Coal Tax Credit. We thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this important request to support businesses in Allegany County.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Blair, Mayor

CC: Governor Larry Hogan
Senator George C. Edwards
Delegate Wendell R. Beitzel
Delegate Jason Buckel
Delegate Mike McKay

February 17th, 2020

Representative Jason C. Buckel
Allegany County, District 1B
House Office Building, Room 309
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Representative Buckel:

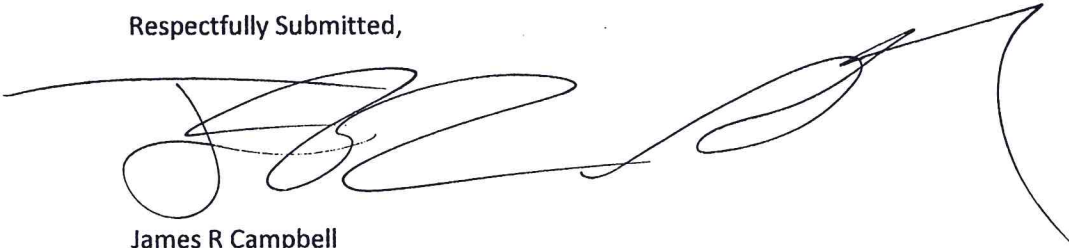
I am writing in support of House Bill 969, Public Service Company Franchise Tax – Credit for Purchase of Maryland–Mined Coal – Extension, and in opposition to House Bill 919.

In the coal business in Maryland we understand that adjustments are required of energy producers moving forward. I ask that the legislature please keep in mind that there is a natural time horizon of a decade or slightly more for both the supply of Maryland thermal coal and the standing arrangements with power producers. It is also worth acknowledging that Warrior Run is a particularly efficient and clean coal plant.

The area's principal employers, the companies involved in coal in George's Creek, already face a myriad of challenges staying open, profitable and providing good jobs. Along with the recent closing of the paper mill in Luke, any effort to hasten the demise of the coal business is going to have severe consequences on the economy and the working population in the area.

Everyone involved is working towards a transition to a less fossil fuel intensive economy. We are looking at ash beneficiation, manufacturing in the energy sector, and repurposing the paper mill. These jobs efforts will take time. Disrupting the local economy and the community by ending the tax credit now will have the effect of draining George's Creek of the people, talent, resources and revenues needed for the transition. What would instead be helpful is to extend the tax credit and then enact thoughtful legislation that further supports local economic development and a transition to a modern energy economy.

Respectfully Submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James R Campbell', is written across the page.

James R Campbell
Campbell Coal Company
970-417-2389 c
jamie1858@gmail.com

Town of Barton

19018 Legislative Road

PO Box 153

Barton, Maryland 21521

301-463-6347

town@townofbarton.comcastbiz.net

To The Maryland General Assembly:

It is with great concern that I write to you regarding the Maryland Coal Tax Credit. The Town of Barton and the residents within are in extreme favor for the continuation of this credit. The Coal Tax Credit is essential to the economy in our area of Allegany County. The coal industry is a huge employer in the Allegany County region. Not only does the coal industry provide jobs to miners, there are many indirect jobs associated with the mining business including truckers, mechanics, fuel station and restaurant workers, etc. In Allegany County, these are jobs we cannot afford to lose.

I urge you to strongly consider the continuation of the Maryland Coal Tax Credit. This credit is vital to our Allegany County communities and economy. Coal mining operations are critical to maintaining our economy and the area cannot afford to lose anymore major business/employers. In any wartime situation, these mines are essential to the steel manufacturing industry offering protection and support to our country through the production of war equipment and machinery.

The Town of Barton appreciates your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,



Daniel A. Colmer, Mayor

Town of Barton



Town of Lonaconing
35 E Main St, Lonaconing, Maryland 21539
301.463.6266 / Fax 301.463.3150

COUNCIL

John W. Coburn Jr., Mayor
Robert S. Eakin
Charles F. Sloan III
Julie A. Hoffman
David S. Hershberger

Tyler P. Rayner, Administrator
Deborah A. Keller, Admin. Assistant

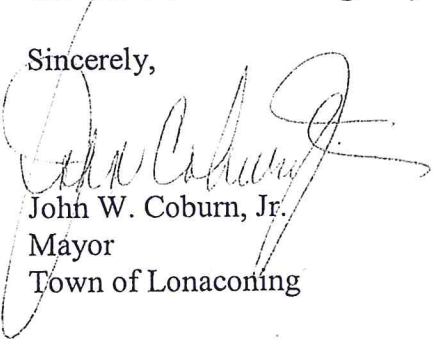
Dear Senator George Edwards:

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Lonaconing are in favor of the continuation of the Maryland Coal Tax Credit. We are opposed to any and all repeals against the Coal Tax Credit.

Coal mining is among the foundation of our region and is vital to jobs of our citizens. The local economy is dependent on coal mining. Any effort to hinder or stop the production of coal mining would severely threaten the local economy and change the landscape of the region. Citizens would be forced out of the region to search for new employment to support their family.

The Town of Lonaconing fully supports coal mining in the State of Maryland.

Sincerely,


John W. Coburn, Jr.
Mayor
Town of Lonaconing