



November 20, 2023

Dear Members of the Legislature,

Thank you for the letter some of you signed and the opportunity to set the record straight. Respectfully, I would suggest the nonsensical allegations that I have changed my tune on our coal, oil and gas industries are either craven misrepresentations of my record on the topic for venal political gain or complete ignorance of my commitment to defend our core industries against all comers regardless of national climate policy.

Wyoming folks will remember that I have repeatedly, over the past several years, made the case that Carbon Capture, Utilization, and multiple forms of Sequestration alongside continued use of fossil energy is a feasible way to approach reducing carbon dioxide in our atmosphere without driving us back into the stone age. I have done so in several public forums both here in Wyoming (including State of the State addresses preceding my most recent reelection) and elsewhere to mining and oil and gas conventions, industry groups, and general public functions. I have also reached out (hopefully persuasively) to audiences arguably less inclined to continued use of fossil energy to point out how valuable CCUS is a way to remove CO₂ from emissions while also bolstering reliability and supply. Moreover, I have advocated for expanded uses of coal, oil, and gas broadly. I took a sample of coal-derived asphalt to Harvard to underscore the point. My record is clear on my advocacy for these industries.

The debate about whether the earth is warming, whether CO₂ is a cause or a benefit has raged for over two decades without rendering a convincing conclusion for all people. Minds are made up on this point. So rather than join the unfruitfulness of that fray, and recognizing that, alas, one side of that argument currently holds most of the levers of regulation, I have sought to position our industries competitively as a practical and more proximate way to attain the stated objective of reducing CO₂ in the atmosphere without also putting people out of a job. Others can keep debating the climate issue, but we need to make sure Wyoming's industries continue to thrive.

Keeping our industries whole while also solving the issue the current regulatory regime presents to us means we keep our industries going and expand our economy. Every Wyoming citizen knows our state enjoys an abundance of energy across a wide array of sources. When we develop, balance, and utilize all forms of energy responsibly, Wyoming will continue to power

our nation, further our economy, and assure our people have good jobs and careers, and a great place to live.

Far from turning my back on our traditional industries or the employees who work in them, I have worked tirelessly to emphasize their relevance and to assure their continued future by highlighting their practical potential for reducing so-called greenhouse gasses when advocates of an unrealistic "Green New Deal" want to shut them down. Here in Wyoming we know how to walk and chew gum.

I will continue to take advantage of every opportunity I can to promote Wyoming's interests and industries. That is the job an overwhelming majority of Wyoming voters elected me to do.

Sincerely,



Mark Gordon
Governor of Wyoming