



KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

30 Years of Action for Justice

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September 13, 2011

Attorney General Beau Biden
Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French Street
Wilmington, DE 19801

Dear Mr. Biden,

We are a grassroots organization of more than 7,500 members working for a better Kentucky. Since 1981, we have helped local people lift up their voices on issues affecting their lives. Very often those issues have concerned abuses by the coal industry. Recently we learned of an initiative in Delaware to revoke Massey Energy's charter, and I write today to convey KFTC's very strong support for this effort.

We ask you to send a strong message to Massey Energy that disregard for human life and the environment will not be tolerated. I urge you to revoke Massey's charter and end its long history of abusing the land and people in seeking to increase its owners' short-term profit. As you know, Massey was found culpable in the accident that killed 29 miners in April of 2010. Massey has a long record of safety violations as well as destruction of the land and communities by mountaintop removal and other invasive mining practices.

In Kentucky we're particularly concerned about Massey's interest in mining near the communities of Benham and Lynch, two former coal camps in Eastern Kentucky that are working to build an economy beyond coal through tourism and other local enterprises. Not only will our miners not benefit from working for a company that doesn't care about their safety, but the blasting, subsidence, flooding and water contamination that come with coal mining threaten the economic development plans of this community and the future of its children.

Appalachian communities matter. And we know that coal mining can be done responsibly. I hope you will make the right decision and revoke Massey's charter for its longstanding, blatant disregard for safety and environmental regulations.

Sincerely,

Steve Boyce
Chairperson