

Dear Secretary Perry,

On behalf of (company name), I strongly support the Department of Energy's study examining electricity markets, the value of baseload power and the long-term resiliency of a well-functioning electric grid. We support your commitment to take action that will ensure a resilient electrical system for all Americans.

Baseload coal and nuclear plants have long been the necessary backbone of our country's electric system. These plants operate around the clock to support the energy demands of customers, businesses and industries. Because they store significant fuel on site and can withstand extreme circumstances that disrupt other generation resources, baseload plants provide vital resiliency to the grid unmatched by other forms of generation.

Yet, valuable baseload generating units have been retiring prematurely at an alarming rate due to targeted regulations, market-distorting subsidies and mandates, extremely low natural gas prices, and market designs that only value cost but not attributes such as resiliency. We have reached a crisis point, and America stands to lose significantly if this trend is allowed to continue.

The future of my business is also at stake. Coal plants have been valuable customers of my company, and our (number) hard-working employees depend on the jobs these plants create. We too have long suffered the war on coal, as plant closures have directly impacted the demand for the product we produce. Protecting baseload coal plants also will strengthen my business so we can sustain strong operations that support jobs, the local tax base and our community.

We are encouraged by the efforts underway at the Department of Energy. Valuing the role of baseload generation must begin today. While others have only admired the problem, we are hopeful that you will be the one to finally take action.

Sincerely,