

MR. CARSON: Good afternoon, my name is Jared Carson, I work at Skyline Mine. I live in Central Utah where the air is clean unlike up here. I'd like to say that the US needs the coal industry and shutting it down will have a lot of negative consequences for the country. The coal industry -- one of the speakers called it a dying industry. Coal still produces 33 percent of the country's electricity. There isn't another resource that produces more than that, so it's not something that we can just get rid of. If it's going to die, it's going to take a long time to die still. I believe we should be pursuing renewable resources. Solar and wind energy has been referred to a lot and I think that's a good thing, but as was mentioned before, if you don't include hydroelectric, renewable energy only accounts for 7 percent of our electricity. And as a previous speaker, if I had understood it correctly, she said that solar employs three times as many people, it only produces .6 percent of the electricity. That doesn't seem like a very good business plan. Also, in Germany -- there was a reference to that, where (reporter unable to understand) electricity. One of the problems with renewables is they're inconsistent, they're intermittent. At times, they have too much power, they have to get rid of it because it overloads the grid. And at times, they don't have enough. So it's not like we can leave fossil fuels. When we develop something, like in Sci-fi, where we have cheap, free energy, that will be great, but until then, we need to have a plan that includes coal. One more thing about the renewable energy industries. Renewables are in their infancy still. They haven't been developed enough to take the place of anything. Shutting down coal production won't just affect our local cities, it will also affect the economies, because it will raise the price of power, it will put some people out of work and possibly put them on unemployment, but also, people that are living in poverty or close to poverty will have more expense because a higher percent of their income will go to paying for the energy, which will go up in price. That will also affect their health and their standards, less access to health care, healthy food, things like healthy lifestyle, and more dependence upon the government. Fair market value, there's talk about raising royalty or adding adders on to the cost at a time where it's been mentioned so many coal companies are going into bankruptcy. It seems like a no-brainer, that's not a very good business plan to raise cost when companies are going into bankruptcy. That's more like kick them while they're down. Anyway, in conclusion, I just want to say, shutting down the coal industry or trying to

shut it down is irresponsible until we have a viable replacement, which we do not.