

1 None of this, though, is the Big Kahuna. The most
2 alarming thing is around climate change. So the highly
3 respected British medical journal, The Lancet last year
4 had their whole issue and the cover was that global
5 climate change is the largest public health challenge of
6 the 21st century.

7 Besides having the highest carbon content of all
8 fossil fuels, coal mining also results in the release of
9 methane which has 23 times higher than CO2.

10 Last comment, Dr. Jonas Salk, polio vaccine pioneer,
11 he had a great quote. "Our greatest obligation is to be
12 good ancestors."

13 So I'm speaking for 800 health care professionals
14 and as a grandfather urging you to make this moratorium
15 permanent. Thank you.

16 MS. ALMOSLINO: Good afternoon. My
17 name is Laurie Almoslino. I am a business owner, a
18 mother, a grandmother, and a member of Congregation Beth
19 Shalom and the religious -- the environmental community.

20 At the Paris climate conference in December of 2015,
21 195 countries agreed to a goal of limiting global warming
22 to well below 2 degrees centigrade, preferably 1.5
23 degrees centigrade.

24 I salute Secretary Jewell, the Department of the
25 Interior, and the Bureau of Land Management for starting

1 your comprehensive review only a month past that
2 conference date in reviewing coal leases on federal
3 lands.

4 I looked up to see what is your obligation as a
5 federal employee. Of course, the Internet is the source
6 of all wisdom. It said -- and it sounded very familiar
7 to me. Your role is to establish justice, to ensure
8 domestic tranquility, to provide for the common defense,
9 promote general welfare, and secure the blessings of
10 liberty.

11 And I understand that there's an oath that you take
12 to uphold the Constitution and to fulfill this role.
13 That's a pretty tall order.

14 Clearly, we are at a critical juncture. We have
15 coal workers. We have coal companies. And we have coal
16 power plants. We just can't turn them off today and let
17 people be too cold or too hot or not have the power they
18 need. However, we are also all witnessing the disastrous
19 effects of global warming, which many people here have
20 testified to and that you can see any day by turning on
21 the news, extreme weather events, droughts, fires,
22 floods, loss of property and loss of life.

23 And burning coal is one of the largest contributors
24 to that global warming. The sensible way forward is to
25 move our country as quickly as possible towards clean

1 renewable energy.

2 You may be familiar with the study, a group of
3 Stanford scientists who have developed a 50-state plan to
4 move us to 80 percent clean energy by 2030 and virtually
5 fully clean energy by 2050. The technology exists today.
6 We need the political will, the resources, and a shared
7 commitment to make it happen.

8 We need to unleash the creativity, entrepreneurial
9 spirit and can-do attitude of the people of this great
10 country towards this achievable goal.

11 We are much more likely to do this if the financial
12 and regulatory incentives are all pulling in the same
13 direction. Clearly wind, water, and sun are the cleanest
14 and least expensive solutions in the short-term. I urge
15 you to have no more new leases. We need to stop leasing
16 coal except just for the emergency use of those who have
17 no other power and move as quickly as possible to a clean
18 energy future. Our land, our lives -- and our lives, our
19 children and grandchildren are at stake.

20 MS. DYE: Good afternoon. My name is
21 Jessie Dye. I'm program and outreach director at Earth
22 Ministry, a 30-year-old organization that connects people
23 of faith with environmental stewardship.

24 First I want to thank you for being here today. You
25 all are incredibly patient. I don't think I could sit as