

# Building and Construction Trades

www.BCTD.org

SEAN MCGARVEY  
President

BRENT BOOKER  
Secretary-Treasurer

EDWIN D. HILL  
1st Vice President

JAMES A. GROGAN  
2nd Vice President

NEWTON B. JONES  
3rd Vice President

WILLIAM P. HITE  
4th Vice President

KINSEY M. ROBINSON  
5th Vice President

PATRICK D. FINLEY  
6th Vice President

JAMES P. HOFFA  
7th Vice President

TERRY O'SULLIVAN  
8th Vice President

JAMES BOLAND  
9th Vice President

WALTER W. WISE  
10th Vice President

JOSEPH J. NIGRO  
11th Vice President

FRANK J. CHRISTENSEN  
12th Vice President

KENNETH E. RIGMAIDEN  
13th Vice President



July 31, 2013

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the nearly 3 million skilled craft professionals who comprise the 13 national and international unions of the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, I write in support of an amendment offered by Congressman Tim Murphy of Pennsylvania to H.R. 1582, the *Energy Consumers Relief Act of 2013*.

This amendment would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from factoring the "social cost of carbon" (SCC) metric into regulatory rules that are estimated to cost more than \$1 billion unless a federal law is enacted that specifically authorizes its consideration. The SCC metric purports to capture the harm caused by carbon emissions used in the cost-benefit analysis of federal regulations. Recently, the Administration announced changes to this calculation, increasing the cost of emissions. The changes to SCC were done without sufficient guidance and oversight and were developed without providing the opportunity for public notice and comment. Given the impending EPA rules to regulate carbon from new and existing power plants, this significant increase in the estimated dollar value for SCC is concerning for building trades members who work at these plants.

Congressman Murphy's commonsense amendment would ensure that Congress is allowed to contemplate fully, and in a transparent way, how the SCC metric is applied to agency rulemaking and how to factor in the jobs impact. With continued unacceptable levels of unemployment in the construction sector, nearly double the national rate, keeping our members at work is one of our most critical concerns.

Again, I urge your support for this sensible amendment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sean McGarvey  
President