



NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

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Will Zack Space Stand With Speaker Pelosi on Coal Tax? *Speaker Calls for New Tax on Vital Industry in Ohio*

Washington - As Members of Congress head back into their districts for a two-week recess, Speaker Nancy Pelosi is already plotting against middle-class Americans by waging war on the coal industry. Her plan would increase the cost of coal production which ultimately may lead to higher costs for power companies and higher energy bills for America's families. In Zack Space's state of Ohio, coal makes up 85.9 percent of Ohio's power, making it the largest source of power in the entire state. Will Zack Space allow his Democrat leader to recklessly place this added burden on the backs of Ohio's middle class families? (America's Power, <http://www.americaspower.org/The-Facts>)

In an interview with the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, Nancy Pelosi was asked about what her priorities would be once Congress reconvened. Obama's controversial cap-and-trade legislation is at the top of her list:

"Congress will take up pollution control legislation, including Obama's cap-and-trade proposal, this year, she said.

"'Coal pollutes the environment. There's just no question about it,' Pelosi said..." ("Pelosi ready to push Obama's plans forward," Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, April 5, 2009)

"Not even the prospect of devastating job losses is enough to curtail the radical agenda that Zack Space and Washington Democrats are waging against the hard-working men and women in America's coal industry," said NRCC Communications Director Ken Spain. "Clean coal not only provides electricity for middle-class families in Ohio, it is the backbone of the economy in many rural areas throughout the state. This reckless Pelosi-driven plan will not only leave thousands of Ohioans in the dark, it will destroy any hope of recovering from a fragile economy."

This is just the latest in a series of statements against the coal industry by leading Washington Democrats. Just last month, the Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) addressed a crowd of anti-coal protesters at the Capitol. You can view Van Hollen's remarks here (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjfDkfZaMEU>).

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