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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2014

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Murray Energy Corporation Sues Obama EPA For Illegal, Unworkable, and Disastrous Cap-and-Tax Regulations on Existing Coal-Fired Power Plants

Murray Energy Corporation (“Murray Energy”) filed a lawsuit against the Obama Administration’s radical Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) today in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (“Court”) challenging the EPA’s promulgation of illegal, irrational, and destructive cap-and-tax regulations for existing coal-fired power plants. These cap-and-tax regulations will destroy millions of jobs, cripple the American economy, and cause massive blackouts in our Country.

In its lawsuit, Murray Energy asks the Court to issue a writ preventing the EPA from promulgating and implementing this illegal and disastrous rule on electric power generation. “This is clearly an illegal attempt by the Obama EPA to impose irrational and destructive cap-and-tax mandates, which Congress and the American people have consistently rejected,” said Gary M. Broadbent, Assistant General Counsel and Media Director for Murray Energy. “These proposed rules will cause immediate and irreparable harm to Americans, including our citizens on fixed incomes and our manufacturers of products that compete in the global marketplace.”

The Obama EPA has waged an all-out War on Coal, promulgating a series of rules and regulations seeking to eliminate the United States coal industry, and the very good jobs, and low cost electricity, which it provides. Indeed, the lives and livelihoods of entire families in many regions of America are being destroyed.

To date, at least four hundred twenty-one (421) coal-fired electric power plants in America have been closed, identified for closure, or switched to a different fuel source because of the Obama EPA.

This is a loss of the most reliable and lowest cost electric power available in America. Further, coal mines are closing, as production in the Central Appalachian region is already down approximately 43% compared to 2008 levels. Indeed, thousands of coal miners have been put out of work, and their families are suffering. In filing this lawsuit against the Obama EPA, Murray Energy is fighting to protect these workers, who only want to earn a living in honor and dignity, and to ensure low-cost electricity for all Americans.

“The plain language of the Clean Air Act clearly prohibits the EPA from promulgation of these unlawful and very damaging rules,” said Mr. Broadbent. “We cannot afford to sit idly while American jobs and livelihoods are destroyed by these illegal regulations.”

Murray Energy is one of the largest employers in the U.S. coal industry, providing over 7,300 high paying, well benefited jobs and operating twelve (12) active coal mines in six (6) states.
