

NEW WHITE HOUSE REPORT RELEASED: FEDERAL COAL LEASING PROGRAM RIPS OFF AMERICAN TAXPAYERS

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WASHINGTON D.C.-- Today, the White House Council of Economic Advisors released a study concluding that the current federal coal leasing program, which allows for coal mining on federal lands, costs taxpayers billions of dollars in lost revenue every year due to lax oversight of public land sales and loopholes in implementing royalty rules.

In response, Radha Adhar, an energy expert for the Sierra Club, released the following statement:

“The findings of this report confirm what so many Americans are learning the hard way: polluting coal companies will do anything they can to protect their dirty profits. They routinely exploit loopholes, ripping off hard-working American families and taxpayers. For decades, coal companies have taken 400 million tons of coal from our public lands annually, burning it in power plants, slowing clean energy development, worsening climate disruption, and polluting our communities.

“We hope this report will persuade the Department of Interior to develop and adopt a plan that will keep coal from public lands in the ground.”