



President Obama Is Making Historic Investments in Clean Coal Research and Technology; Mitt Romney Called Coal Plants “Dirty” and Said Coal Jobs “Kill People”

Key Point: President Obama believes coal is an important part of our energy future, and he’s helping the coal industry add jobs, making historic investments in clean coal research and development, and helping keep coal miners safe and healthy. Mitt Romney attacked and refused to protect coal jobs as governor, and now he won’t help coal stay competitive. He’s continually making the wrong choices for the coal industry and our energy future.

- **President Obama’s** all-of-the-above American energy strategy is about becoming energy independent by developing all our domestic energy resources – including clean coal technologies, which the President has long supported.
 - Jobs: Under the President, coal mining jobs reached a 15-year-high, with more than 90,000 jobs nationwide. Since he took office, coal jobs have grown by 10 percent in Ohio, and coal production is up 7%.
 - An Industry Built to Last: The President has already invested \$5 billion in clean coal research and development, one of the largest federal investments in clean coal. He’s helping the coal industry compete in the 21st century to ensure that it is sustainable years into the future.
 - Health and Safety: The President is helping make sure coal miners are safe and healthy, and 2011 saw the second-lowest number of U.S. miner deaths on record. Obamacare makes sure that longtime miners with black lung disease no longer have to prove a direct cause to help their family get the benefits they deserve.
 - Foreign Oil: Under the Obama administration, the nation’s dependence on foreign oil is the lowest it’s been in 16 years.
- **Mitt Romney** may pander to his donors and claim he wants to help support the coal industry and coal miners, but his record and policies show otherwise.
 - As Governor: He abandoned the interests of coal workers by attacking their “dirty power plants” and refusing to protect their jobs, which he said “kill people.” He also enforced strict regulations on the coal industry “without compromise.”
 - As President: He would cut off the President’s investments in clean coal. He once attacked coal as a choice “between dirty power plants or protecting the health of the people.” That’s a false choice given the promise of clean coal.
 - Where Does He Stand? As a presidential candidate Romney is now claiming that he supports coal, completely contradicting his previous stance when he was Governor of Massachusetts. Like so many other issues in this campaign, we have no clue what Mitt really believes.

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