



RPC Highlight

H.J.Res. 130 - Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment”.

Sponsored by Rep. Harriet Hageman (WY-At Large)
RPC Sophomore Representative

Bill Summary:

This legislation provides Congressional disapproval for the Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment issued on November 20, 2024.

Policy Background:

The Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approval Resource Management Plan Amendment (Buffalo RMPA) made areas of public land administered by the Buffalo Field Office unavailable for coal leasing and consideration. The rule prohibits new leasing and resulted in the closure of active coal mines in Wyoming.

In April, the Department of the Interior announced it would pursue the amendment process for the Buffalo resource management plan to reopen access to coal reserves in the Powder River Basin.

The Powder River Basin is a mining region in Northeast Wyoming and Southeast Montana, with 16 operating mines in 2019. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, prior to this rule, the Powder River Basin was responsible for 43% of U.S. coal production.