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STATEMENT FROM JIM BUHRMASTER ON STATE INVESTMENT IN CLEAN COAL

Two weeks ago, I put forward a comprehensive energy plan that called for the construction of new, clean-coal power plants that use carbon capture technology. I also stressed how important it is to get these plants on-line here, in New York, where electricity costs are the third highest in the nation.

Governor Paterson's decision to invest in exactly this type of facility is a tremendous step forward. While there are some who advocate abandoning coal as a source of energy altogether, this is not realistic, nor possible. Coal generates forty-percent of the world's electricity and remains abundant in the U.S.

We will not solve New York's continued struggles with electricity costs and supply by striving to eliminate coal as an energy source. But by constructing new plants with advancements in technology that dramatically reduce emissions, we can ensure an adequate supply while mitigating greenhouse gas emissions.

I commend Governor Paterson for making this investment and embracing clean coal technology.

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Paid for by Jim Buhrmaster for Congress
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