We need stronger regulations on coal fueled power plants. Stronger regulations would encourage the gradual elimination of coal and encourage alternate energy which would decrease the need for mountaintop removal coal and strip mining coal.

According to recent health surveys heavy strip mining communities are among the unhealthiest places to live in the United States. Strip mining is very destructive to unborn babies who have a higher rate of mental retardation and other health problems. Many people's homes are destroyed by flooding related to mountaintop removal mining and other forms of strip mining.

Areas with mountaintop removal mining and strip mining have among the highest levels of unemployment and poverty. Stricter coal fueled power plants regulations would encourage alternate energy in East Kentucky besides coal, and more jobs would result in East KY. There are more jobs in solar and wind energy in the United States, than all the combined mining jobs in the United States.

An increasing number of coal miners, both surface mining and deep miners are getting black lung and silicosis caused by rock dust. A lot of miners have lost their jobs. A decrease in coal power plants would increase alternate energy jobs to replace coal jobs, and alternate energy jobs would be better for workers health and provide steady long term work, unlike the boom and bust of the coal industry.

Water pollution from coal strip mining carries the heavy metals and other contaminants of the drinking water downstream from Eastern Kentucky to Louisville KY, Lexington KY, Cincinnati OH and all the way down the Mississippi River where it harms the fishing industry in the Gulf of Mexico. Alternate energy such as solar and wind would not pollute the water like strip mining. We need stronger coal fueled power plant regulations to discourage using coal and encourage environmentally friendly alternate energy.

Coal is the main source of global warming. We need stronger regulations to discourage the pollution of coal and use more alternate energy. As coal production and the number of coal miners decrease the subsidies for alternate energy should increase.

All the glaciers of North America are in a state of retreating. The observed retreat has increased rapidly since approximately 1980, and overall each decade since has seen greater rates of retreat than the preceding one.

The long feared collapse of a portion of the West Antarctic ice sheet is underway and irreversible.

The Greenland ice sheet, the northeastern part, is losing 10 billion tons of ice per year for the last decade, resulting in a rise of sea level. Cities like Miami FL, New York City, and Norfolk VA will have future flooding problems.
Some scientists believe that an increase in earthquakes will result from the decrease in weight of melting glaciers.

Glaciologist Jason Box said coal fired plants in Europe and China have sent an unexpected thick layer of soot over the Arctic region, last summer, which settled onto Greenland’s vast frozen interior, increasing the amount of sunlight the ice and snow absorb, which in turn accelerated the melting.

According to NASA Greenland and Antarctica are losing 3 times as much ice each year as they did in the 1990’s. The Arctic is warming faster than any place on Earth.

Fossil fueled Power Plants are contributing to melting of glaciers in the United States and the rest of world glaciers. We need stronger fossil fueled Power Plant regulations and more alternate energy.

The heating of the oceans from global warming makes hurricanes, cyclones and typhoons more intense and evaporates around 2 trillion gallons of additional water into the skies above the United States. Resulting in record breaking down pours all over the world; and also, causing mud slides.

Sea waters are 30 percent more acid than four decades ago and causing problems for the marine food chain on the ocean’s bottom. Large numbers of species are becoming extinct in the oceans.

Dirty coal pollution near Coal Power Plants cause bronchitis, asthma and cancer. I have talked to young people who live near a Coal Power Plant and they have severe health problems, and they blame the Coal Power Plants for their health problems.

A product of burning coal is coal ash with all its health and environmental problems.

Alternate energy, and decreasing the dependence on coal, would solve many of the health and environmental problems.

The price of solar panels has fallen 90 percent in a few decades, it won’t be easy to shift our economy off coal, gas and oil. Germany on a sunny day can generate half its power from solar panels. Texas makes a third of its energy from wind. Kentucky gets more sunlight than Germany.

Some analyst in Germany believe by 2020 that 50 percent of its electricity will be from wind and solar. With increased subsidies to alternate energy and stronger regulations on fossil fuels we can stop our heavy reliance on fossil fuels which are the major contributor to global warming.

As a result of global warming 100 percent of California is in a drought, with an increase in fires and mudslides. California produces much of the United States food and crop reduction will result in higher prices at the Super Market and possible shortages of food. Governor Brown is even discussing building water plants to convert sea water to fresh water which is very expensive.

Increases in storms like Hurricane Sandy and a recent tornado in upper New York State that Governor Quomo said that part of New York State has never had a tornado shows the seriousness of Global warming.
We need stronger Power Plant regulations to prevent global warming. We need to increase subsidies to alternate energy that provide more jobs than coal mining; and, are environmentally friendly.

As coal production and the number of coal miners reduce, we need to lower the subsidies to the coal industry and increase the subsidies to alternate energy.

In Eastern Kentucky, surface coal mining is greatly depleted & deep mining coal is greatly depleted. The coal is rapidly running out. We need alternate energy to replace coal.

Alternate energy supplies more jobs than mining.