

February 5, 2019

Mr. Michael A. McCord
Designated Agency Ethics Official
Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 520N
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. McCord:

The purpose of this letter is to describe the steps I will take to avoid any actual or apparent conflicts of interest in the event I am confirmed as a Commissioner of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission ("FMSHRC").

As required by 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which I know that I have a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which I know that a person whose interests are imputed to me has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me: any spouse or minor child of mine; any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner; any organization in which I serve as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

I understand that pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 8401.102(a), a FMSHRC supplemental ethics regulation, I, my spouse, and any minor child are prohibited from acquiring a financial interest in any company or other person engaged in mining activities subject to the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, 30 U.S.C. 801 *et. seq.*

If I have a managed account or otherwise use the services of an investment professional during my appointment, I will ensure that the account manager or investment professional only invests in cash, cash equivalents, investment funds that qualify for the exemption at 5 C.F.R. § 2640.201(a), obligations of the United States, and municipal bonds.

I will meet in person with you during the first week of my service in the position of Commissioner in order to complete the initial ethics briefing required under 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. Within 90 days of my confirmation, I will document my compliance with this ethics agreement by notifying you in writing when I have completed the steps described in this ethics agreement.

I understand that as an appointee I must continue to abide by the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order No. 13770) that I previously signed and that I will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments I have made in this ethics agreement.

I have been advised that this ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Will I Althen".

William I. Althen