

Capitol Power Plant. I would appreciate your further response to these two additional questions:

1. You indicated that "in a series of projects starting in 1989, individual boilers within the plant have been modified to be capable of burning natural gas." What was the total capital cost (or your best estimate) of those modifications?

2. In my previous letter I asked where the coal is produced that is burned in the plant, and you responded that the coal is purchased through GSA and the Defense Energy Support Center. Can you tell me which state(s) the coal comes from?

I appreciate your attention to this request, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

ED WHITFIELD,
Member of Congress.

THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL,
Washington, DC, April 2, 2009.

Hon. ED WHITFIELD,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WHITFIELD: Thank you for your letter of March 25, 2009 regarding the Capitol Power Plant. I appreciate your continued leadership on energy issues and your support of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC). Your letter contained two questions addressed below.

You asked for an estimate of the total capital investment made in recent years for modifying boilers at the Capitol Power Plant to burn natural gas. We have completed several projects stretching over the past twelve years to convert individual boilers to burn natural gas. The capital investment for these projects was approximately \$1.5 million.

You also asked which state supplies coal used at the Capitol Power Plant. The AOC purchases coal through the Government Services Agency (GSA) and the Defense Energy Support Center. These entities are responsible for determining the source of coal supplied under their contract. It is our understanding, based on information from the GSA, that the most recent supplier of coal for the plant is located in West Virginia.

Should you have further questions about the Capitol Power Plant, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN T. AYERS, AIA,
Acting Architect of the Capitol.

MILANA ATENCIO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Milana Atencio who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Milana Atencio is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Milana Atencio is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Milana Atencio for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the

same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

CAREGIVERS AND VETERANS OMNIBUS HEALTH SERVICES ACT

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1963, the "Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act." I voted for components of this bill and would have voted in favor of this bill if not home recovering from surgery. This important legislation will help us to meet the needs of the men and women who have courageously sacrificed for our country and those that now care for them.

This bill ensures that veterans and their families get the care and support they need after they have put their lives on the line defending our great country. We in Congress made a promise not to leave our veterans behind and this bill renews that promise. This bill addresses the unique needs of the families and caregivers of our wounded warriors, of returning women soldiers and those veterans who are catastrophically disabled.

This bill provides support services to family and other caregivers of veterans, including education on how to give better care, counseling and mental health services, and respite care for family and other caregivers of all veterans. It also provides health care and a stipend for caregivers living with severely wounded veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, many of whom have had to leave a job to care for their veteran full-time.

This bill improves health services for nearly 2 million female veterans. The VA will be able to provide care for female veterans' newborns for up to seven days for the first time in history and improve treatment for sexual trauma victims. It requires the VA to conduct a study of barriers to female veterans seeking health care and implement a reintegration pilot program.

This law ensures the VA can better treat veterans suffering from mental health issues and provides the VA with resources to learn more about the tragically high suicide rate among veterans. This bill also prohibits copayments for veterans who are catastrophically disabled and creates a pilot program to provide certain dental services to veterans, survivors and their dependents. It also expands grants that fund critical organizations offering transitional housing and other support for homeless veterans.

I believe this legislation offers comprehensive solutions to major, high-priority challenges facing veterans and their families. It brings hope to the men and women in uniform who have dedicated their lives to our country, and their families who have in turn dedicated their lives to caring for their wounded warriors at home.

TRIBUTE AND CONGRATULATIONS
TO MRS. EMMA ALLEN ON THE
OCCASION OF HER 100TH BIRTH-
DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Emma Allen who was born on June 2, in Bessemer, Alabama and now resides at Lexington Healthcare of Elmhurst, IL.

Mrs. Allen has lived a long and fruitful life; she is the last of twelve siblings, was married to her late husband Mr. John Allen for 68 years and has one (1) daughter, three (3) grandchildren, six (6) great grandchildren, and three (3) great-great grandchildren.

I also commend Lexington Healthcare of Elmhurst, IL for providing excellent care for individuals like Mrs. Allen so that they may be able to live and enjoy life even though they may have reached the age of 100.

I also commend and thank granddaughter Ms. Janice Meeks for bringing Mrs. Allen to our attention and I wish and hope that all grandparents would have grandchildren like her.

PERMANENTLY EXTENDING THE
FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER TAX
CREDIT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, today I introduce legislation to permanently extend the first-time homebuyer tax credit and to make the credit available to people whose homes have been destroyed by a natural disaster, such as a hurricane. The legislation also makes a number of changes to existing tax credits in order to enhance their usefulness to victims of natural disasters. Specifically, this bill makes the casualty loss deductions available to taxpayers who do not itemize and it makes the casualty loss provision available for five years after the disaster. This legislation also helps people who have lost their jobs because of a natural disaster by making unemployment payments provided under the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act tax free.

Renewing the first-time home buyer's credit will help Americans purchase a first home with their own money, instead of having to rely on government-funded or backed programs. The other sections of this legislation were inspired by conversations my staff and I had with constituents who had to purchase new homes because Hurricane Ike destroyed their prior homes. The first-time homebuyer's tax credit could be of tremendous value to these people, yet the law denies them the credit because they are replacing destroyed homes. My bill not only reinstates that first-time homebuyer's credit, it also corrects that oversight.

It is hard to think of a more beneficial or compassionate expansion of the first-time homebuyer tax credit than to make the credit available to those whose homes have been destroyed or damaged by natural disasters. In

addition, the changes to the casualty loss provision will help more taxpayers affected by natural disasters. Repealing the taxes on unemployment benefits provided to people affected by natural disasters will ensure those forced onto the unemployment rolls because of a natural disaster are not further burdened by having to pay taxes on their unemployment benefits. Providing tax relief to first-time homebuyers and to those affected by natural disasters should be one of Congress' top priorities. I therefore urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

MICHAEL MORENO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Michael Moreno who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Michael Moreno is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Michael Moreno is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Michael Moreno for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

HONORING EDWARD VAN ES

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Edward Van Es, a business leader and entrepreneur who recently passed away. Mr. Van Es served the community of Laredo, Texas greatly through his contributions and grand business sense.

Mr. Van Es was born in Amsterdam, Holland in 1931. During the war, at the young age of ten, he was put on a freighter across the water of Yesselmer to farmlands where he worked. As a young boy, he witnessed the German occupation of Holland and lost two years of school in that time, yet returned home after working for eight months. Eventually, his country recovered and Mr. Van Es was able to return to school and graduate. He also served his country by joining the Dutch Army for two years, as a mechanic on tanks.

By 1953, Mr. Van Es immigrated to the United States where he lived in Los Angeles, California. He was a sports car auto mechanic and worked at a Jaguar dealership, servicing cars for Hollywood stars. He received his Bachelor's from California State College and his Master's from California State University in Long Beach. He became an educator—teach-

ing high school and after receiving his Master's became a college professor teaching manual arts. While teaching, Mr. Van Es had aspirations to fulfill as an independent franchisee for McDonald's. He became certified for his future business career by attending and graduating from Hamburger University in Oak Brook, Illinois. He developed a franchise in Laredo, Texas where the store's popularity grew and attracted tourists from Mexico and further. The franchise in Laredo broke all time sales in the industry. Thirty seven years later, a total of 16 McDonald's stores opened.

Mr. Van Es became recognized as one of the top McDonald's Owner/Operators in the corporation and received numerous awards. He served as Board of Director and Advisor to McDonald's Owner Association and was a member of the Ronald McDonald House Children's Charities amongst other organizations. Laredo Chamber of Commerce named him the Business Person of the Year in 2000.

As a prominent rancher and savvy businessman, Mr. Van Es gave back to the community through his dedication and contributions to charitable organizations. His 37-year career not only employed thousands, but also came to be his extended family and a lifetime service for Laredo, Texas. Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the late Mr. Van Es.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM M.
KRAUSE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to pay tribute to William M. Krause who is retiring after 30 years of active duty and federal civilian service. He currently serves as the Director of Business Operations on Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri.

In August of 1980, Mr. Krause began his service as an airman in the United States Air Force. After 10 years of active duty service, he started his career as a contract specialist for the Air Force. He distinguished himself early on as a leader and innovator in this field. For his superior performance and unique approach to the job, Mr. Krause was named the Director of Business Operations in 1993.

As Director, Mr. Krause mentored small businesses in Missouri through the Department of Defense Small Business program and during my annual Procurement Conference. His mentorship and expertise strengthened Whiteman's security, improved relationships with local businesses and communities, and bettered the lives of the servicemen and women who call Whiteman home.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Krause's tireless dedication and outstanding contributions to the Whiteman community will continue to be felt for generations to come. I wish him, his wife Peggy, and his son Josh the very best in the years ahead.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
STAMFORD AREA YOUTH PHIL-
HARMONIC

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Stamford Area Youth Philharmonic and its esteemed founder and musical director Salvatore Princiotti.

Fifty years ago, Mr. Princiotti imagined an environment where young musicians could grow as artists and individuals while learning to work together toward a common goal and enriching the local community. As conductor of the string ensemble of the Junior Schubert Club of Stamford, Salvatore Princiotti organized the Schubert Club Youth Orchestra, which quickly grew into the Stamford Area Youth Philharmonic, an ensemble now recognized for both its musical excellence and community involvement.

The Stamford Area Youth Philharmonic provides students the opportunity to work with their peers and talented professionals to learn and perform challenging, exciting repertoire. These experiences motivate young artists to pursue with tenacity their own musical aspirations as well as to share that enthusiasm as leaders in their school music programs. The result is an ensemble acclaimed for its musicianship, style, and expression and a membership with a passion for excellence that carries over into all endeavors they pursue.

The Stamford Area Youth Philharmonic has not only continued to distinguish itself musically, but Maestro Princiotti and his students have also shown their commitment to the community. With performances throughout Southwest Connecticut, giving of their time and talent, these students and their teachers have distinguished themselves as both musicians and citizens.

While the Stamford Area Youth Philharmonic is lucky to count such talented students as members, these achievements would not have been possible without the direction and commitment of their director and founder Salvatore Princiotti. In celebrating his 50 years as conductor, I am thankful for the Maestro's service and dedication to the community, music, and above all, the students. He has left an indelible mark on the minds of all those who have been given the opportunity to learn under his baton and reminded us all of the importance and value of musical education.

Congratulations to the Stamford Area Youth Philharmonic, Maestro Salvatore Princiotti, and the students, parents, teachers, and volunteers who have committed themselves to creating and maintaining the impressive ensemble. Good luck and we look forward to another 50 years.

MALEAH VELARDE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Maleah