

Energy CEO and Change Advocate for Coal Appointed to Influential International Advisory Council

A longtime proponent of alternative, non-energy and technology-oriented uses for coal, Randall Atkins has been appointed to the International Energy Agency's Coal Industry Advisory Board

WASHINGTON - As part of the global energy transition, political and business leaders are considering a future in which coal plays a role in non-energy, technology-forward applications. One of the most influential international groups mapping this future will be advised by a CEO who believes coal may one day become too valuable to burn.

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Randall Atkins, CEO, Ramaco Resources (Photo: Business Wire)

This week Randall Atkins - Chairman and CEO of public metallurgical coal producer Ramaco Resources, Inc. (NASDAQ: METC) and carbon technology company Ramaco Carbon - was appointed to the International Energy Agency's (IEA) Coal Industry Advisory Board (CIAB). The CIAB advises the IEA on coal-related policies and projects around the world.

On the Board, Atkins will not only represent the United States coal industry, but also advocate for the international development of alternative uses for coal, such as replacing petroleum as a cheaper, more environmental feedstock in advanced materials such as carbon fiber, graphene, and graphite, a critical material in the manufacture of electric vehicle batteries. His membership was advanced by the United States Department of Energy and approved by the White House.

The IEA is a Paris-based intergovernmental organization that provides policy recommendations, analysis and data on the entire global energy sector. The CIAB was established in 1979 to create deeper expertise at the IEA on the wide range of worldwide issues relating to coal. Its members comprise a group of high-level coal industry executives from the countries accounting for as much as 80% of world coal production and consumption, including the U.S., China, Germany, Brazil and Australia. Members are nominated by their host governments and appointed by the IEA.

"We have been working with the Department of Energy's national laboratories, strategic industry peers, regulatory agencies and environmental stakeholders for

many years to develop and advance a new direction for coal. A role that places it at the center of technological advances and environmental solutions," said Randall Atkins. "I am excited to join this group of influential global leaders to continue developing ways for industry to benefit from this vital and abundant natural resource."

"Randy Atkins brings invaluable expertise and insight to the IEA's Coal Industry Advisory Board," said Katie Sweeney, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of National Mining Association. "Randy not only has his feet firmly planted in the coal marketplace, with a world-class understanding of the ongoing importance of coal to the world's energy, manufacturing and infrastructure needs. But he's also a leader in exploring new uses for coal, such as a source of critical minerals, as well as the burgeoning coal-to-products market. Randy is an excellent addition to the Board and brings just the type of innovative perspective that will help inform how the IEA thinks about coal today and its potential tomorrow."

Besides founding metallurgical coal producer Ramaco Resources, Atkins also leads Ramaco Carbon, a vertically integrated carbon technology company that is helping pioneer "coal to products" research and development. It is partnered with two of the United States Department of Energy's largest national laboratories - Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the National Energy Technology Laboratory - on advanced research into the development and commercialization of coal-based carbon products and materials, and is at the forefront of exploring coal's use as a source of critical minerals. The company has research facilities in Wyoming and West Virginia.

Atkins was previously Chairman of the Department of Energy's National Coal Council, a Federal Advisory Committee to the U.S. Secretary of Energy. He chaired a task force that issued a white paper to former Secretary of Energy Rick Perry in 2019 on advanced uses for coal, including in the manufacture of many forms of carbon products and materials, titled "Coal in a New Carbon Age."

Atkins has testified before both the U.S. Senate Energy Committee and the House of Representatives' Natural Resource Committee on the subject of national coal policy and uses for coal in manufacturing advanced carbon products and materials. He has been involved in various energy industries for more than 40 years, and is also a member of the Board of Directors of the National Mine Association.

About Ramaco Resources, Inc.

Ramaco Resources, Inc. is an operator and developer of high-quality, low-cost metallurgical coal in southern West Virginia, southwestern Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania. Its executive offices are in Lexington, Kentucky, with operational offices in Charleston, West Virginia and Sheridan,

Wyoming. The Company currently has three active mining complexes in Central Appalachia.

About Ramaco Carbon

Ramaco Carbon, a subsidiary of Ramaco Resources, Inc., is a carbon technology company based in Sheridan, Wyoming. It is pioneering more valuable and environmental uses for coal, primarily as a feedstock in the creation of advanced carbon products and materials such as rare earth elements, carbon fibers, graphene, and graphite. In addition to research partnerships with top laboratories, it operates a research and pilot facility related to the production of advanced carbon products and materials from coal in Wyoming, and holds a body of intellectual property patents, pending applications, exclusive licensing agreements and various trademarks. Ramaco Carbon has also been involved in the exploration of critical minerals from coal and related formations.

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