

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4805

July 8, 2021

Honorable Secretary Xavier Becerra
U.S. DHHS Community and Economic Development Program
200 Independence Ave.
Washington D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra,

I am writing to express my full support for Coalfield Development's application to your agency to fund its HighWall project in Mingo County, West Virginia. This is an important project which can create local jobs, help create new business investment, and support the economic revitalization and diversification southern West Virginia so desperately needs. In addition to advocating for Coalfield's innovative project throughout my state, I know my staff works closely with Coalfield Development's team on economic planning, project coordination, community engagement, and community capacity building. My team stands ready to continue supporting Coalfield Development however we can.

Coalfield Development's innovative approach to community and economic development is the kind of replicable, effective, and leveraged approach our state needs to move forward. HighWall may well be the biggest impact the organization will have ever had. My staff can attest to the high capacity of the Coalfield Development team to cast a big vision, secure funding for that vision, and execute on the tasks required to bring that vision in to reality. Coalfield Development certainly has the capacity to make this grant a huge success for our state.

Thank you for considering Coalfield Development's application for funding. I strongly support Coalfield Development's proposal for the Highwall Project. The use of U.S. DHHS funds for community development purposes in Appalachia is much needed and I believe this plan looks to create a unique employment opportunity in an area of the state that is currently in need of economic stimulus.

Sincerely,



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator