



Friends of the Earth

April 16, 2015

Dear Professor Tribe:

I am deeply troubled that you have chosen to represent Peabody Energy in their attacks against the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan. In representing Peabody Energy you are using your position at Harvard University, and your academic reputation, to promote their corporate agenda. As a legal scholar, I believe it is your duty to the public to be fully transparent about any arrangements that could color your intellectual thought, and to that end I respectfully request that you disclose the full terms of any agreement that you have with Peabody Energy.

You were quoted in the New York Times as stating that you are "[not for sale](#)," and that you are simply saying what you believe. Knowing the specifics about your arrangement with Peabody Energy will allow the public to have all of the relevant facts so they can make an informed decision about your impartiality.

As we recently saw with revelations regarding the funding of climate deniers, [such as Wei-Hock Soon](#), the fossil fuel industry is pouring millions of dollars into fighting efforts to regulate their activities. They use scientists, economists and lawyers at respected institutions to legitimize their arguments. The public deserves to know the details of any financial ties that academics have to companies whose profits are dependent on tearing down the Clean Power Plan or other regulations requiring them to clean up their act.

As President Obama has said, climate disruption is the greatest threat to future generations and we have a responsibility to ensure that this planet is here for our grandchildren and great grandchildren. The only way to do this is to transition away from dirty sources of energy toward clean forms of energy, such as wind and solar. Your reputation is being used to burnish the arguments of polluters who want to undermine the President's authority to deal with this problem. I believe that you have a moral obligation to provide the details of your relationship with Peabody Energy.

Sincerely,

Erich Pica
President
Friends of the Earth - U.S.