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Press Conference: Governor's Energy Development Summit - 2016 - organized by

Remarks by Joe Andrade on behalf of Utah's Coal Miners and Planet Earth

My name is Joe Andrade. I am a retired U of Utah, Professor of Engineering.

I was here two years ago at the 2014 Governor's Energy Summit. I was optimistic because Ted Nordhaus, of the Breakthrough Institute, was a keynote luncheon speaker. I knew of Ted's work and of his father, a well known energy economist at Yale.

Governor Herbert was just a few chairs away from the speaker's podium as Nordhaus talked about climate change, greenhouse gases, air pollution, and the death of coal - probably the first time those words were spoken from an energy summit podium. The Governor visibly grimaced. There was no opportunity for questions.

Knowing Nordhaus' group had just issued a report called *Coal Killer*, a friend and I contacted Nordhaus before the meeting, and arranged his participation in a panel discussion at the City Library the very afternoon of his 2014 Energy Summit lecture. We all learned a lot at that discussion.

But apparently Governor Herbert, Lt. Gov. Cox and Energy Advisor Stewart heard nothing of what Nordhaus said at his luncheon lecture.

Two years later, last week, in this very Salt Palace - at the BLM's information gathering session on its coal lease moratorium - I was here again, with nearly 400 yellow-shirted coal miners and drivers and a hundred or so others. The Governor's spokeslady, Dr. Nelson, spoke. So did two spokespeople for Congressmen Chaffetz and Stewart. All they did was poke fingers at Obama, the Dept. of the Interior, and the BLM. They railed against the 'war on coal'. They looked for witches and scapegoats.

They said nothing about the economic transformations under way, about the bankruptcy of major coal firms, about the economic war on coal by natural gas, by solar, by wind. They said nothing about the collapse of the coal economy, now underway in Richfield-Salina and in the Price area. They said nothing about the Coal Killer talk by Nordhaus, spoken directly into Herbert's left ear some two years ago.

Utah's leaders have done nothing. They let their rural communities collapse while they point fingers at Obama.

The fossil fuel energy economy is collapsing - coal is the first stage of that collapse. The fossil fuel economy will crumble. A new energy economy will emerge from its dust and ashes. That will be very chaotic, turbulent, traumatic, and difficult. It need not be so.

We are led almost entirely by patriarchs who are so arrogant that it makes them ignorant. They are ideologues literally ignoring the needs of their own constituents, and blind to the crumbling fossil fuel economy around them.

Their constituents - those 400 yellow-shirted people at last week's hearing, and the many, many hundreds more - are being sacrificed to arrogance, ignorance, and idiocy. Their constituents' faces and eyes show their fear, dread, anxiety, and even hopelessness. They understand a transformation is underway. And their leaders tell them to blame Obama - and other witches.

Our Governor, most of the Legislature, and our entire Congressional delegation are, in my opinion, evil. They must be removed. Political Evil must be exorcised.

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