

Letter to the editor published in the Courier-Journal, in October 2008.

Note to David Hawpe, Governor Beshear's support for the coal industry is not based on "big checks from the coal industry." Governor Beshear understands that Kentucky's economy is driven by coal. Either by the thousands of people in our state who make their living in coal, or by the revenues coal produces, or the power coal produces, coal is a major industry in our state. What's the next Kentucky industry Hawpe wants to shut down, liquor, horse racing, maybe anything to do with the internal combustion engine?

The Governor understands we all want renewable energy sources but wind and solar don't work with today's technology or in our climate. It is easy to ask people if they want these energy sources, of course their answers will be positive, but the reality is they won't provide enough energy in Kentucky. I would suggest Mr. Hawpe conduct a survey based on the following question; "Given the mass destruction of our forests in the making of paper, the toxic chemicals used to make ink, combined with the huge amounts of fossil fuel used in the delivery of newspapers, are you in favor of banning all news papers and getting your news from the internet or television?"

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