also for residual fuel oil by the Secretary of the Interior on the flimsy excuse that it is necessary to aid the campaign for air quality improvement.

I believe the time has come to take a new look at, and a new approach to our trade policy as it affects residual fuel oil imports. I do not believe there is any equity in a policy which permits af foreign fuel to take over an important domestic market—not only the existing market but the growth market as well. The coal industry appreciates the need for this Nation to maintain a two-way trade. We question, however, whether the Congress intended, in adopting the Trade Agreements Act, for the traffic to become one-way—foreign industrial oil flowing into this Nation to the exclusion of domestic products.

We suggest, Mr. Chairman, that this committee give serious consideration to remedying this deplorable situation which has built up over the past decade, and which all evidence suggests will continue to grow more severe rather than improve.

We suggest that a formula be adopted under which foreign oil would be permitted to share in only a part of the growth market for industrial fuel on the east coast—not monopolize the entire growth market as it does at present.

I have serious doubts that this objective can be achieved under the present system of the Congress delegating rulemaking authority to the executive branch. Experience during the past decade has proved this to be a complete failure. No semblance of a stable relationship between domestic and imported industrial fuel has been maintained. This, I submit, is what is urgently needed.

We are not asking for an embargo on residual oil imports, or even a significant cutback in current imports.

What we are asking is that imports be required to share the growth market with domestic fuels.

This can only be achieved by this committee and the Congress writing a formula to achieve this objective and then requiring the executive branch to see that it is carried out.

We fully endorse the objective of several bills now pending before the Congress to establish by legislation a guarantee that the present import limitation on crude oil, which is set at 12.2 percent of domestic production in the most recent comparable period for which statistics are available, be kept intact. We believe that it is essential to the national security that America be self-sufficient in fuels including petroleum and thus a strong dependable domestic petroleum industry must have the national support.

We likewise believe that the Nation must maintain a strong coal industry, one which is able to fill any emergency demand for essential heating, power, and industrial production that may develop; and we do not think that a continuing eroding away of coal's east coast markets in what seems to be a Government policy decision to turn over much of that area's energy supplies to offshore fuels is consistent with this objective. Therefore, we urge that an amendment be adopted to whichever of several bills limiting crude oil and other product imports to provide a comparable reasonable legislative limit on the further growth of residual fuel imports.

Despite the damage we have suffered in the past and the serious loss of markets that has already taken place in the Northeast, it would probably be unrealistic to seek congressional action sharply reducing