02 March 2020

Dear Mr. Culp,

We, the undersigned, represent 65 civil society organisations from 16 countries around the world in which GE is expanding coal power. We call on GE to commit to no longer supply any coal-fired power station equipment which would expand coal power anywhere around the world.

Your rationale, publicly stated at GE’s 2019 Annual General Meeting, for continuing to pursue this polluting, dying industry is that the countries where you’re building coal power need and want coal to develop.

We don’t need you to speak for us.

We also don’t need you to spread the air and water pollution that comes with the expansion of the coal industry, destroying the lives, health, productivity and livelihoods of people in our countries. We also don’t need GE to hasten global warming and threaten our collective future by enabling over 15GW of new coal power to come online. The fact remains that to meet the goals of the Paris Climate agreement, which you purport to support, we need to start closing coal power plants – we definitely cannot expand the coal industry like GE is trying to do.

GE’s own track record says that fossil fuels are on the way out. In 2018, your power division revenues shrunk by 22 percent while your revenue from renewable energy grew by 4 percent. You stated in 2019 that you expect that renewable energy will be your fastest growing business.

We want to use renewable energy to develop. Our countries deserve the chance to grow using cutting-edge, clean technology which won’t pollute our air, our waterways and our lungs. In many of our countries, renewable power is cheaper than new coal or will be within the next few years. We don’t want to be locked into paying for dirty energy just because you think you can make a few quick bucks.

Use your imagination, Mr. Culp. Stop doubling down on an outdated industry that’s losing you money and bet on our healthy communities and clean development.

Sincerely,

PS: We’re tracking all of GE’s dirty coal investment at getoutofcoal.org, because you’re not doing a great job of disclosing it to your investors. You’re welcome.