



H. Lawrence Culp Jr. President and CEO  
General Electric 41 Farnsworth St.  
Boston, MA 02210  
USA

14 October 2020

Re: GE to pursue exit from new build coal power market

**Dear Mr. Culp,**

We, the undersigned, represent 21 civil society organizations from countries around the world in which GE has existing plans to expand coal power.

We welcome GE's announcement last month that it "intends to exit the new build coal power market". However, we would like clarification on what this statement means for the pipeline of [15 coal power plants](#) around the world that GE is currently involved in. GE is yet to announce a timetable to exit from new coal power projects, and has not indicated which projects it will exit from and how GE's approach would support a transition to renewable energy. GE's announcement also does not make clear whether exiting the new build coal power market includes retrofits and expansions of existing coal power stations. These 16 coal power plants would enable close to 13 GW of coal power to come online and could prove catastrophic to global efforts to contain climate change.

GE has also stated that it will continue to assist existing clients service coal power projects. This will prolong the coal power industry and undermines efforts to limit global warming in accordance with the climate goals of the Paris agreement. In addition, this business exposes GE to transition risks associated with climate change, including technology and regulatory changes, and the potential for reputational costs.

We demand that GE:

- Set a clear timetable to end any further efforts to expand the coal sector by restructuring existing business, retrofitting or expanding existing plants, including the 16 coal power projects GE is currently linked to.
- Implement a phase out plan to shift coal power capacity to renewable energy in line with the goals of the Paris climate agreement, which includes working with clients to retire and replace existing fossil fuel projects with renewable energy and implementing a transition plan for its workers.

We also ask that you **respond to this letter by October 21, 2020** and attend a webinar to be hosted in late October by organizations supporting communities seeking clarity on what GE's announcement means for coal fired power stations in their locations. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

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