

May 15, 2020

Subject line: Fraud Alert – Martonick Publications



Dear American Coal Council members,

An old problem has resurfaced regarding Maria Martonick and Martonick Publications (Martonick). I am aware of unscrupulous business activity once again by Martonick including for a publication called *Coal Energy*.

You or your payables department may have received an invoice for advertising recently from Martonick referencing the American Coal Council (ACC). Please be advised that the ACC does not have and has never had a business relationship or affiliation with Martonick or any publication titled *Coal Energy*. **ACC and our publishing partner The Davis Media Company are aware of multiple recent instances where Martonick has sent invoices for advertising that were not agreed to by the recipients. These invoices are illegitimate and misleading.** Additionally, the invoices may state that this publication reaches the members of four associations, including the American Coal Council. ACC has never provided access to any of our mailing lists to Martonick.

The Davis Media Company Inc. has been ACC's exclusive publishing partner since May 2017, and is solely responsible for all advertising sales in conjunction with ACC's media and publications including the American Coal magazine, American Coal Buyers' Guide, ACC's Annual Calendar, ACC's Annual Membership Directory, newsletters, and website.

It is doubly distressing that Martonick is doing this at a time of major challenge for our nation. ACC recognizes that our members' business processes have been adapted and more virtual work necessitated by COVID-19. **We kindly ask you to advise your payables department immediately to be on alert for any illegitimate invoices received from Martonick Publications.** We want to ensure none of our valued members and advertisers fall victim to this fraud. If you have received an illegitimate invoice from Martonick Publications or you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you and be well,

Betsy

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