Climate change is a threat in the U.S. -- We are already feeling the dangerous and costly effects of a changing climate – affecting people’s lives, family budgets, and businesses’ bottom lines

EPA is taking three actions that will significantly reduce carbon pollution from the power sector, the largest source of carbon pollution in the US
- Clean Power Plan (CPP) – existing sources
- Carbon Pollution Standards – new, modified and reconstructed sources
- Federal Plan proposal and model rule

EPA’s actions
- Achieve significant pollution reductions
- Deliver an approach that gives states and utilities plenty of time to preserve ample, reliable and affordable power
- Spur increased investment in clean, renewable energy
POWER PLANTS ARE THE SINGLE LARGEST SOURCE OF CARBON POLLUTION

- **Carbon Dioxide (CO2)**: 82%
- **Fluorinated Gases**: 3%
- **Nitrous Oxide (N2O)**: 5%
- **Methane (CH4)**: 10%

**Total U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions By Economic Sector in 2013**

- 31% Electricity
- 27% Transportation
- 21% Industry
- 12% Commercial & Residential
- 9% Agriculture

*Source: EPA*
States and Communities are Taking Action to Reduce Carbon Pollution

State programs that reduce carbon include carbon cap and trade programs, energy efficiency targets and renewable energy standards.

As of July 2015
Climate Action Plan

• Building a 21st century transportation sector
• Cutting energy waste in homes, businesses, and factories
• Reducing methane and HFCs
• Preparing the U.S. for the impacts of climate change
• Leading international efforts to address global climate change
• Reducing carbon pollution from power plants
EPA is Taking Action: Legal Foundation

- Greenhouse gases, including CO₂, are pollutants that EPA can regulate under the Clean Air Act. That issue was decided by the courts in 2007 and reaffirmed last year.

- The Courts have also recognized EPA’s authority to issue national rules limiting carbon pollution from stationary sources such as power plants, refineries, and other industrial facilities.

- EPA’s finding that greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere endanger public health and the environment has been upheld by the courts, and the courts have also affirmed EPA’s rules limiting greenhouse gases from cars and trucks.

- EPA’s regulation of power plant mercury and air toxics pollution does not preclude EPA from regulating power plant carbon pollution.
• More than two years of unprecedented outreach and public engagement

• Responds to the critical changes that stakeholders and states asked the agency to make and incorporates many of their good ideas
  • More than 4 million public comments submitted to EPA
  • Hundreds of meetings with stakeholders

• Public engagement was essential throughout the development of the Clean Power Plan, and that outreach will continue during the implementation
Transition to Clean Energy is Happening Faster than Anticipated

Carbon and air pollution are already decreasing, improving public health each and every year. The Clean Power Plan accelerates this momentum, putting us on pace to cut this dangerous pollution to historically low levels in the future. When the Clean Power Plan is fully in place in 2030, carbon pollution from the power sector will be 32 percent below 2005 levels, securing progress on and making sure it continues.
The Clean Power Plan

- Relies on a federal-state partnership to reduce carbon pollution from the biggest sources – power plants
- Carrying out EPA’s obligations under section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act, the CPP sets carbon dioxide emissions performance rates for affected power plants that reflect the “best system of emission reduction” (BSER)
- EPA identified 3 “Building Blocks” as BSER and calculated performance rates for fossil-fueled EGUs and another for natural gas combined cycle units
- Then, EPA translated that information into a state goal – measured in mass and rate – based on each state’s unique mix of power plants in 2012
- The states have the ability to develop their own plans for EGUs to achieve either the performance rates directly or the state goals, with guidelines for the development, submittal and implementation of those plans
The Clean Power Plan

What sources?
### Best System of Emission Reduction: Three Building Blocks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Block</th>
<th>Strategy EPA Used to Calculate the State Goal</th>
<th>Maximum Flexibility: Examples of State Compliance Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1. Improved efficiency at power plants** | Increasing the operational efficiency of existing coal-fired steam EGUs on average by a specified percentage, depending upon the region | -Boiler chemical cleaning  
- Cleaning air preheater coils  
- Equipment and software upgrades |
| **2. Shifting generation from higher-emitting steam EGUS to lower-emitting natural gas power plants** | Substituting increased generation from existing natural gas units for reduced generation at existing steam EGUs in specified amounts | Increase generation at existing NGCC units |
| **3. Shifting generation to clean energy renewables** | Substituting increased generation from new zero-emitting generating technologies for reduced generation at existing fossil fuel-fired EGUs in specified amounts | Increased generation from new renewable generating capacity, e.g., solar, wind, nuclear, and combined heat & power |
This interconnection and diversity of generation offer cost-effective advantages and approaches that many states have already shown can provide power while emitting less CO₂.

In assessing the BSER, EPA recognized that power plants operate through broad interconnected grids that determine the generation and distribution of power. EPA’s analysis is based on the three established regional electricity interconnects: Western, Eastern and the Electricity Reliability Council of Texas.
Power plants are subject to the same standards no matter where they are located.

EPA is establishing carbon dioxide emission performance rates for two subcategories of existing fossil fuel-fired electric generating units (EGUs):

1. Fossil fuel-fired electric generating units (generally, coal-fired power plants)
2. Natural gas combined cycle units

Emission performance rates have been translated into equivalent state goals. In order to maximize the range of choices available to states, EPA is providing state goals in three forms:

- **rate-based** goal measured in pounds per megawatt hour (lb/MWh);
- **mass-based** goal measured in short tons of CO$_2$
- **mass-based goal with a new source complement** (for states that choose to include new sources) measured in short tons of CO$_2$
Choosing the Glide Path to 2030

• **Phased-in glide path**
  - The interim period runs from 2022-2029 and includes three interim performance periods creating a reasonable trajectory (smooth glide path)
  - Interim steps:
    - Step 1 – 2022-2024
    - Step 2 – 2025-2027
    - Step 3 – 2028-2029
  - Provided that the interim and final CO\(_2\) emission performance rates or goals are met, for each interim period a state can choose to follow EPA’s interim steps or customize their own

• **Renewables and energy efficiency can help states meet their goals**
  - Investments in renewables can help states under all plan approaches to achieve the Clean Power Plan emission goals while creating economic growth and jobs for renewable manufacturers and installers, lowering other pollutants and diversifying the energy supply
  - Energy efficiency improvements are expected to be an important part of state compliance across the country and under all state plan types, providing energy savings that reduce emissions, lower electric bills, and lead to positive investments and job creation
The transition to clean energy is happening faster than anticipated. This means carbon and air pollution are already decreasing, improving public health each and every year.

While this chart reflects health benefits in 2030, EPA’s Regulatory Impact Analysis for the CPP estimates health benefits due to reduced emissions beginning in 2020.
State Plans
## Clean Power Plan Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2015</td>
<td>August 3, 2015 - Final Clean Power Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Year</td>
<td>September 6, 2016 – States make initial submittal with extension request or submit Final Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Years</td>
<td>September 6, 2018 - States with extensions submit Final Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Years</td>
<td>January 1, 2022 - Compliance period begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Years</td>
<td>January 1, 2030 - CO(_2) Emission Goals met</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Two State Plans Designs:

• States are able to choose one of two state plan types:

**Emission Standards Plan** – state places federally enforceable emission standards on affected electric generating units (EGUs) that fully meet the emission guidelines
  - can be designed to meet the CO₂ emission performance rates or state goal (rate-based or mass-based goal)

**State Measures Plan** - state includes, at least in part, measures implemented by the state that are not included as federally enforceable emission standards
  - designed to achieve the state CO₂ mass-based goal
  - includes federally enforceable measures as a backstop
State Plan Development

• Many states are discussing plans that would enable them to collaborate with other states, including multi-state plans or linking plans through common administrative provisions (i.e. “trading ready”)
  • Trading-ready mechanisms allow states or power plants to use creditable, out-of-state reductions to meet their goal without the need for up-front interstate agreements
  • If states elect to collaborate, EPA can support the option for trading as a suitable choice for both EPA and states to implement the CPP
    • Examples of trading in NOx SIP and CSAPR, Acid Rain program
    • Appropriate for carbon emissions
    • Eases administrative burdens
    • Reduces costs to electricity consumers and utilities

• In the CPP, EPA is finalizing state plan designs that suit state needs
  • Pathways for existing programs to reduce carbon emissions, individual state plans and multi-state trading approaches

• Federal plan proposes option for model trading program a state may then implement
  • Invites comment on mass and rate based model trading programs for EGUs
  • Invites comment on idea that all types of state plans can participate in trading
Many CO$_2$ Reduction Opportunities

- Heat rate improvements
- Fuel switching to a lower carbon content fuel
- Integration of renewable energy into EGU operations
- Combined heat and power
- Qualified biomass co-firing and repowering
- Renewable energy (new & capacity uprates)
  - Wind, solar, hydro
- Nuclear generation (new & capacity uprates)
- Demand-side energy efficiency programs and policies
- Demand-side management measures
- Electricity transmission and distribution improvements
- Carbon capture and utilization for existing sources
- Carbon capture and sequestration for existing sources
Incentives for Early Investments

- EPA is providing the **Clean Energy Incentive Program (CEIP)** to incentivize early investments that generate wind and solar power or reduce end-use energy demand during 2020 and 2021.
- The CEIP is an optional, “matching fund” program states may choose to use to incentivize early investments in wind or solar power, as well as demand-side energy efficiency measures that are implemented in low-income communities.
- A state interested in participating in the CEIP must make a (non-binding) expression of its intent to participate in the CEIP in its plan or initial submittal due on September 6, 2016.
- EPA will provide matching allowances or Emission Rate Credits (ERCs) to states that participate in the CEIP, up to an amount equal to the equivalent of 300 million short tons of CO₂ emissions. The match is larger for low-income EE projects, targeted at removing historic barriers to deployment of these measures. Also, states with more challenging emissions reduction targets will have access to a proportionately larger share of the match.
- The CEIP will help ensure that momentum to no-carbon energy continues and give states a jumpstart on their compliance programs.
- EPA will conduct CEIP-specific outreach calls to discuss the CEIP and gather feedback on specific elements of the program in November & December, including with states.
- More information on CEIP next steps: [http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplantoolbox/ceip-next-steps](http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplantoolbox/ceip-next-steps)
Proposed Federal Plan and Model Rules

Pathways for Implementation
Proposed Federal Plan

- On August 3, the EPA proposed a federal plan to implement emission guidelines for power plants under section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act in any state that does not submit an approvable plan. The proposed federal plan:
  - Ensures the CO₂ reductions required in the final CPP are achieved
  - Preserves reliability
  - Co-proposes two different approaches to a federal plan— a rate-based trading plan type and a mass-based trading plan type - Both of which would require affected EGUs to meet emission standards set in the CPP
  - Proposes to implement the CEIP under a rate or mass type of plan
  - Proposes to allow for ERCs from eligible RE under a rate-based approach
  - Takes comment on allowing for demand-side EE set asides (under mass) or ERCs from EE (under rate)

- Will be finalized only for those affected states with affected EGUs that EPA determines have failed to submit an approvable Clean Air Act 111(d) state plan by the relevant deadlines set in the emission guidelines

- Even where a federal plan is put in place, a state will still be able to submit a plan which, if approved, will allow the state and its affected EGUs to exit the federal plan

- EPA currently intends to finalize a single approach (i.e., either the mass-based or rate-based approach) for every state in which it finalizes a federal plan
Proposed Model Rules

• EPA also proposed rate-based and mass-based model trading rules that provide a cost-effective pathway for states to adopt a trading system supported by EPA and make it easy for states and power plants to use emissions trading.

• The Model Rule
  • Does the heavy lifting for states that choose to use a model rule as their state plan
  • Demonstrates a readily available path forward for Clean Power Plan implementation
  • Presents flexible, affordable implementation options for states
  • Includes presumptively approvable provisions for EE and RE ERC issuance under the rate-based model rule
  • Allows for participation in the CEIP under a rate or mass type of plan
  • Includes stand-alone portions, such as the evaluation, measurement and verification (EM&V) procedures for emission rate credits (ERCs), that would be approvable even if a state adopted an approach that differs in other respects from the model rule.

• States can follow these model rules when developing their own plans to capitalize on the flexibility built into the final Clean Power Plan

• A state trading program that adheres to the model trading rule provisions specified in this rulemaking, when final, would be presumptively approvable.

• EPA intends to finalize both the rate-based and mass-based model trading rules in summer 2016.
How to Comment

• The Federal Plan and Model Rules were published on October 23 in the Federal Register, and **EPA will accept comments until January 21, 2016**.
  
  • Details: [http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplan/how-comment-proposed-federal-plan-clean-power-plan](http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplan/how-comment-proposed-federal-plan-clean-power-plan)

• We are also holding several **public hearings** later this week and next week in Pittsburgh, Denver, Atlanta and Washington, DC.
  
  • Details: [http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplan/forms/public-hearings-proposed-federal-plan-clean-power-plan](http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplan/forms/public-hearings-proposed-federal-plan-clean-power-plan)
After two years of unprecedented outreach, the EPA remains committed to engaging with all stakeholders as states implement the final Clean Power Plan.

- For more information and to access a copy of the rule, visit the **Clean Power Plan website**: http://www2.epa.gov/carbon-pollution-standards

- Through graphics and interactive maps, the **Story Map** presents key information about the final Clean Power Plan. See: http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplan

- For community-specific information and engagement opportunities, see the **Community Portal**: http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplan/clean-power-plan-community-page

- For additional resources to help states develop plans, visit the **CPP Toolbox for States**: http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplantooldownbox


- For a graphical and detailed walk through of the EGU category-specific CO₂ emission performance rate and state goals, see **State Goal Visualizer**: http://www2.epa.gov/cleanpowerplantooldownbox

- EPA provides **webinars** and **training** on CPP related topics at the air pollution control learning website. See: http://www.apbi-learn.net/lms/cpp/plan/