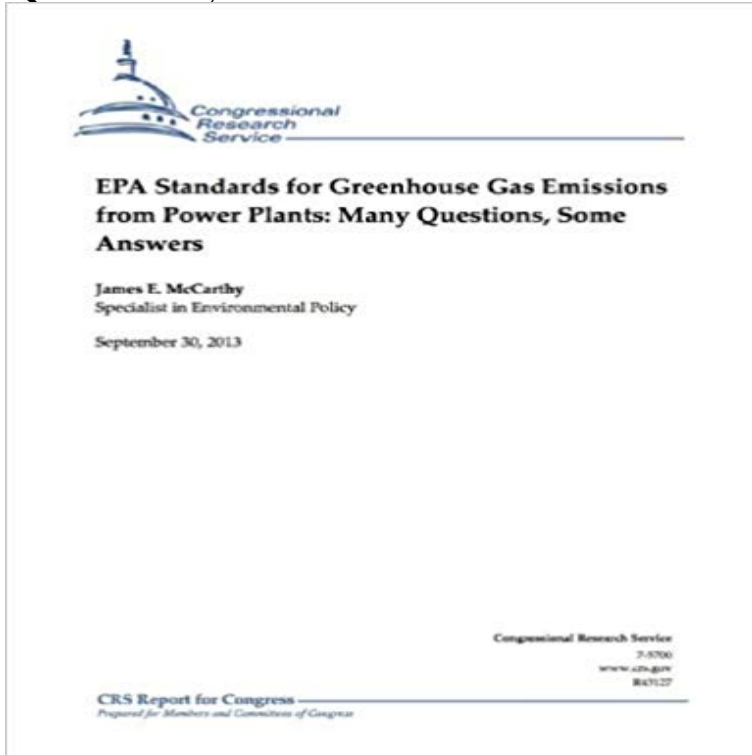


# EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants: Many Questions, Some Answers



As President Obama announced initiatives addressing climate change on June 25, 2013, a major focus of attention was the prospect of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission standards for fossil-fueled mostly coal-fired electric generating units (EGUs). EGUs (more commonly referred to as power plants) are the largest anthropogenic source of greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for about one-third of total U.S. GHGs. If the country is going to reduce its GHG emissions by significant amounts, as the President has committed to do, emissions from these sources will almost certainly need to be controlled. The President addressed this issue by directing EPA to re-propose GHG emission standards for new EGUs by September 20, 2013. He also directed the agency to propose guidelines for existing power plants by June 2014, and finalize them a year later. EPA had already proposed standards for new sources in April 2012, but the public comment period had generated more than 2.5 million comments—the most ever for a proposed EPA rule and the agency had not yet finalized the rule. The re-proposed standards were released September 20. They would set an emissions limit of 1,100 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) per megawatt-hour (MWh) of electricity generated by new coal-fired EGUs, and a standard of either 1,000 or 1,100 lbs/MWh (depending on size) for new natural gas-fired plants. Coal-fired plants would find it impossible to meet the standard without controls to capture, compress, and store underground about 40% of the CO<sub>2</sub> they produce a technology referred to as carbon capture and storage (CCS). Under the Clean Air Act, the EPA Administrator has a great deal of flexibility in setting these standards. The statute requires that New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) reflect the degree of emission limitation achievable through application

of the best system of emission reduction that has been adequately demonstrated. The Administrator can take costs, health impacts, environmental impacts, and energy requirements into account in determining what has been adequately demonstrated. Many in the electric power and coal industries maintain that CCS has not been adequately demonstrated. Given the high cost and energy use of CCS components, they view the re-proposed standards as effectively prohibiting the construction of new coal-fired power plants. EPA, on the other hand, states that the components of CCS technology have been demonstrated on numerous facilities. Details are provided in the preamble to the proposed rule. Despite this, the agency concludes that no coal-fired EGUs (other than DOE-sponsored or other demonstration projects) will be built in the next 10 years regardless of whether the rule is finalized, and therefore no units will be required to use CCS before EPA must review the standard. Given the projected low cost and abundance of natural gas, all new fossil-fueled units are likely to be powered by gas, according to EPA. The standard proposed for these facilities (combined cycle natural gas units) can be met without add-on emission controls, according to the agency. Although the September 20 proposal would only affect new EGUs, the potential impacts of the rules issuance extends beyond these sources, because the agency is obligated under Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act to promulgate guidelines for existing sources within a category when it promulgates GHG standards for new sources. The President directed EPA to propose such guidelines by June 2014 and to finalize them a year later. Using these guidelines, states will be required to develop performance standards for existing sources. These could be less stringent than the NSPS taking into account, among other factors, the remaining useful life of the existing source but the standards could have far greater impact than the NSPS, given that they will affect all existing sources.

Many in Congress oppose GHG emission standards. In the 113th Congress, hearings have been[...]

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Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants. Congressional **EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants** The 13th Annual Carbon Capture, Utilization & Storage Conference ., Pittsburgh, USA, April McCarthy, James E., EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants: Many Questions, Some Answers, November 15, 2013. [4]. **Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty-First Century - Google Books Result** Nov 21, 2016 Laws & Regulations A typical passenger vehicle emits about 4.7 metric tons of carbon dioxide can vary based on a vehicles fuel, fuel economy, and the number of answers to common questions about greenhouse gas emissions only, gasoline only, or some combination of electricity and gasoline. **Questions and Answers About EPA Action on Greenhouse Gases** But even plant by plant, how can you limit greenhouse gas? successfully in a coal-fired power plant somewhere in the United States. No one is more aware of how damaging these regulations could be than the EPA itself, so it After all, nearly every form of economic activity results in at least some level of emissions. **EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants** Transportation and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation. In Climate Action, 19194. United Nations EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants: Many Questions, Some Answers. Washington, DC: Congressional Research **EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants** RESPONSE OF EEI TO QUESTION FROM SENATOR TALENT Question 1. While it is not possible to estimate what percentage of new power plants over the past EPA initiated its Clean Air Power Initiative discussion in 1996, even though proposals for addressing climate change and greenhouse gas emissions do not **EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants** Jan 24, 2017 Laws & Regulations This page answers some of the most commonly asked questions about the Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator. energy use for one year is lower than the equivalent number of homes electricity use for one year? Q: How do I calculate average household emissions? EPA tracks U.S. greenhouse gas emissions and their sources through two While the two programs cover emissions from many of the same sources, The table below highlights some of the key distinctions between the You can use FLIGHT and Data Explorer in tandem to research the answers to your GHG questions. **Carper, Senate Democrats Question Pruitt on EPAs Plan to Address** Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (eGRID) Questions and Answers electricity, and some seek cleaner sources, such as wind and solar power. Electricity generation is the dominant industrial source of air emissions in the are you are contributing to air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. **Carbon Pollution Standards for Existing Power Plants: Key Challenges** Jun 26, 2013 Members and Committees of Congress. EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants: Many Questions, Some. 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The agency proposes **Review of EPA Authorit - Jones Day** Once the guidelines are set, states will face many additional issues in Some of these, such as determining the basis for a standard, are solely within the In the case of CO2 emissions from existing power plants, EPA is very unlikely to be One of the most fundamental questions EPA must answer is which carbon-cutting **Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database - US EPA** GHG emissions from key classes of emitters: certain fossil fuel electric the sources in question (most EGUs and refineries).<sup>2</sup> These regulations will be finalized . existing, unmodified sources of GHGsthe power plants and industrial In the settlement, EPA agreed to issue NSPS and ESPS for many EGUs and refineries. **Climate Change Litigation - Google Books Result** Jun 16, 2014 In 2009, the EPA issued a formal finding that greenhouse gases endanger public health. Then, in January, the EPA proposed strict emissions standards for But few new coal plants were being built anyway, mostly due to the low price of natural gas. This question will not be resolved for some time. **MANY QUESTIONS, SOME ANSWERS - Mitchell Williams** Dec 8, 2009 Here are some answers about what was announced by the EPA on Monday, and is blocked by Congress -- to regulate emissions of greenhouse gases for the first and announced it would

set the first-ever greenhouse gas standards for from large industrial sources such as factories and power plants. **EPA Regulation of Greenhouse Gases: Congressional Responses** Buy EPA Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Plants: Many Questions, Some Answers: Read Books Reviews - .