Natural Gas Use & the Clean Power Plan Reports

In June 2014, the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) proposed a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the carbon emissions from the nation’s coal fired power plants. This plan is contained within federal regulations available here.

The US EPA plan has four main blocks, or elements. One of the elements of the plan calls for states to “redispatch” – or switch coal fired plants to plants burning natural gas – as a means to reduce emissions. The plan sets two targets for switching from coal to natural gas in the proposed rule: 70% or by 65%. Only one of these will be in US EPA’s final rule.

This page contains pre-made queries on the effects the proposed Clean Power Plan regulation will have on the demand for natural gas in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The maps below present: (1) which states are projected to switch from coal to natural gas fired power plants, (2) which states expect to see an increase in natural gas use by up to either 65% or 70% upon switching, (3) the corresponding need for each state to increase use of natural gas to maintain power production, and (4) which states support, which states oppose, and which states take no position on the Clean Power Plan based on whether they have filed an amicus curiae brief in In re: Murray Energy Corp. v. Environmental Protection Agency, et al., No. 14-1112, consolidated with No. 14-1151 (D.C. Circuit 2014).


This report summarizes key queries from the LawAtlas Map. You can see additional maps and tables by visiting http://www.lawatlas.org.
The chart below shows the increased use of natural gas by state using US EPA’s target of up to 70%.

**States that will meet US EPA’s redisplay target of 70%**

28 states will meet US EPA’s target of 70%

**States that will not meet US EPA’s redisplay target of 70%**

14 states will not meet US EPA’s target of 70%
States that support US EPA’s Clean Power Plan


Jurisdictions: CA, CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NM, NY, OR, RI, VT, WA

States that oppose US EPA’s Clean Power Plan

14 states joined the law suit as a movant-intervenor challenging EPA’s authority to issue the Clean Power Plan in *In re: Murray Energy Corp. v. Environmental Protection Agency*, et al., No. 14-1112, consolidated with No. 14-1151 (D.C. Circuit 2014).

Jurisdictions: AK, AL, AR, ID, KS, KY, LA, NE, OH, OK, SD, WI, WV, WY

States that took no position on US EPA’s authority to issue the Clean Power Plan

25 states were not a participant (either supporting or opposing the proposed rule) in the suit *In re: Murray Energy Corp. v. Environmental Protection Agency*, et al., No. 14-1112, consolidated with No. 14-1151 (D.C. Circuit 2014).

Jurisdictions: AR, CO, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NV, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA