SUMMARY

In June 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (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 at: 79 Fed. Reg. 34830 (June 18, 2014).

The maps present (1) which states are projected to switch from coal to natural gas, (2) the expected reduction in carbon emissions (as a percentage) in each state, (3) whether or not the state expects to reach the target or alternate target reductions set by EPA and (4) the corresponding need each state is projected to have to increase the use of natural gas (also expressed as a percentage) to maintain power production in that state. This data was mined from EPA documents published in support of the proposed regulation.

ABOUT [TOPIC] & THE DATA

The 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 EPA's final rule.

About half of the states have filed amicus curiae briefs in a law suit that challenges the authority of EPA to promulgate the Clean Power Plan – with about half in support of the plan and half challenging the plan. The lawsuit is unusual because the court is considering the constitutionality before the regulation is issued; as such, the lawsuit may impact the adoption of the plan and natural gas use.

The goal of this project is to explore the state-by-state effects the proposed Clean Power Plan regulation will have on the demand for natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing and other unconventional oil and gas drilling technology. This dataset is a state-by-state survey using EPA data and the assumptions used by the EPA as it formulated the Clean Power Plan proposal.

The dataset also depicts which states filed an amicus curiae brief in support of EPA's proposed 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); which states joined the lawsuit challenging the EPA's authority to issue the Clean Power Plan; and which states took no legal
position on the Clean Power Plan. Inclusion allows the user to compare state changes in natural gas usage with legal position.

Some findings from the dataset include:

- Twenty-eight states will meet the US EPA’s target of 70%, while fourteen states will not meet the 70% target
- Twelve states have filed an amicus curiae brief in support of EPA’s proposed Clean Power Plan, while 14 states have joined the lawsuit as a movant-intervenor challenging EPA’s authority to issue the Clean Power Plant.

**NAVIGATING THE DATA**

There are two ways to navigate the data by clicking the Filter tab or the Explore tab — for each option, the data can be visualized in a map and table format or in jurisdiction profiles.

**Filter**

The dataset homepage will default to the Filter tab. Here, users may answer a series of questions to learn more about the characteristics of the laws. Answering more than one question will show all the jurisdictions that meet the combined criteria. Criteria selected will be listed above the questions, and can be removed by clicking the white X or by clicking “Reset” above the questions.

**Explore**

Users can access Explore by clicking the Explore tab in the bar above the questions. Using Explore, users will see the answers to one question across all jurisdictions.

The primary questions in this dataset are:

1. What was the 2012 Natural Gas Combined-Cycle (NGCC) power plant capacity factor for this state?
2. What is the US EPA’s post-redispatch assumed NGCC capacity factor for Existing Fleet (at target of up to 70%)?
3. What will be the increased gas usage in this state at the US EPA’s target of up to 70%?
4. Will this state meet US EPA’s target of 70%?
5. What figure does US EPA use as this state’s post-redispatch NGCC capacity factor for existing power plant fleet (at alternate target of up to 65%)?
6. What will be the increased gas usage in this state at US EPA’s alternate target of up to 65%?
7. Will this state meet US EPA’s alternate target of 65%?
8. Does this state support US EPA’s Clean Power Plan?

**DISPLAYING THE RESULTS**

There are two display modes once criteria have been selected by using either the Filter or Explore tab — Map display mode and Profiles display mode.
**Map Display**

LawAtlas.org dataset homepages default to the map display mode. When querying the data using the Filter tab, all jurisdictions that meet the criteria selected will display in one tone of yellow. Those jurisdictions that do not meet the criteria selected will be colored gray. When querying the data using the Explore tab, the map will illuminate with colors from yellow to red that are associated with the various answer choices (the color-coding is defined by the key to the left of the map).

Below the map, a table will appear. Using the Filter or Explore tab to navigate the questions will change the display:

- Using the Filter tab, you can select an unlimited number of criteria and the applicable jurisdictions that meet the combined criteria will be displayed in the table below.
- Using the Explore tab, you can isolate a single criterion and the applicable jurisdictions will appear in the table below.

**Profiles Display**

The Profiles display presents the results of the criteria selected in a text-based format for each applicable jurisdiction. Using the Filter tab, jurisdictions that meet the criteria selected will display. Using the Explore tab, jurisdictions that meet the criterion selected will display. If no criteria are selected, the full profiles for each state will appear under both Filter and Explore.

**Profile Legend**

Within each Profile box, above the questions and answers, there are additional options and information useful in exploring the law:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Toggle Legal Text – Selecting this option will show all the legal text used to answer questions for this jurisdiction.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toggle Full Place Profile – Selecting this option will show all questions and answers for this jurisdiction, regardless of what was selected using the Filter or Explore tabs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toggle Size – Selecting this option will make the profile larger, but will not change the information displayed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legal Text History** – This interactive timeline displays when changes in the law have occurred within a jurisdiction. Using the arrows to the left or right, users may explore how the law has changed over time as new amendments to the law have been enacted. The timeline will change from gray to a shade of yellow when the jurisdiction passed its first relevant law. Each change in the law after that is marked by a break in the timeline.
Map and Profile Legend
There are a few symbols to be aware of in both Map and Profiles display modes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td><strong>Section Symbol</strong> – Clicking this symbol will open a window that displays excerpts from the law that correspond to the question and answer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>!</td>
<td><strong>Caution Note</strong> – Clicking on this symbol will open a small window that displays text that describes important caveats about the question and answer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATASET RESOURCES
Each dataset homepage includes the following resources available for download:

- **Data**: The Data file exports in CSV format and may contain two tabs. The “Statistical Data” tab contains the legal variables coded in the dataset, displayed as values defined in the accompanying Codebook. The “Summary Data” tab contains the legal variables coded in the dataset in text form, as well as the accompanying citations and any caution notes that may be included. Note: if there is only one tab available for download it will be the “Statistical Data” as described above.

- **Codebook**: The Codebook defines all of the coded variables in the dataset. The Codebook lists the question, question type, variable name, variable value and variable label. The Codebook should be used in conjunction with the Statistical Data extract.

- **Research Protocol**: The Research Protocol is a comprehensive document that outlines the entire methodology of the project, including the scope, inclusion and exclusion criteria, data collection methods, definitions, coding scheme decisions, as well as the quality control process.

- **Summary Report**: The Summary Report provides a snapshot of important findings from the dataset.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION


- The US EPA data used for this project can be found at: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Clean Power Plan Proposed Rule Technical Documents, Data File Goal Computation Appendix 1&2.


This collection of laws does not provide legal advice nor does it address enforcement of laws, administrative policies, case law, or any other sources of law. Should you have a specific question about these laws in your state, please contact an attorney in your jurisdiction.