



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **“IECA Requests that the EPA Establishes Cost-Effective Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards”**

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) requests that, as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) moves to establish greenhouse gas emission standards under the Clean Air Act for power plants, EPA prioritize low-cost and “cost-effective” energy efficiency from every sector as a means of achieving the emissions reductions to be required by those standards. And EPA should let energy efficiency compete with all other emissions reduction technologies, including renewable energy because competition will drive down both costs and emissions.

The industrial sector strongly supports cost-effective and verifiable energy efficiency as a way to reduce its energy costs, improve competitiveness, and to achieve emissions reductions required under the Clean Air Act.

Industrial energy efficiency options should include proven measures such as advanced electric motors and pumps but also the cogeneration of power and steam as well as use of waste heat recovery or “hot stack gas” recovery and use.

It is important for the Administration to remember that State regulations allow all costs imposed upon the electric generating sector to be passed on to us, the consumer. It is for this reason that the Administration must ensure that the lowest cost options are included in the GHG regulation. It is critically important that EPA greenhouse gas regulation of the power generating sector not increase the cost of electricity. The manufacturing sector competes globally and is under enormous competitive pressure. The manufacturing sector has lost 5.7 million jobs or 31 percent of its workforce since 2000. Low-cost electricity (and fuels such as natural gas) is essential in our ability to compete globally.

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*The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading Manufacturing companies with \$800 billion in annual sales and with more than 750,000 employees nationwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through research, advocacy, and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: plastics, cement, paper, food processing, brick, chemicals, fertilizer, insulation, steel, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, aluminum and brewing.*