

EPA Carbon Dioxide Regulations

Energy Tax on Economy will Kill Jobs, Hurt Families

President's Energy Tax Plan

President Obama instructed the EPA on June 25, 2013 to regulate carbon dioxide under the Clean Air Act. Initially, EPA will issue New Source Performance Standards regulations to limit carbon dioxide emissions from electricity plants and this will lay the groundwork for similar regulations for other industries including refineries, petrochemical plants, steel mills, industrial boilers, cement kilns, metal smelters, chemical plants, pulp and paper mills, and a host of other industries.

No New Coal Plants

The President's misguided regulations on carbon dioxide would ban new high efficiency coal-fueled plants that take advantage of current best-in-class technology at a time when America needs low-cost electricity to affordably and reliably power the nation, boost job-growth and rebuild the economy. These plants are typically 40 percent more efficient than the plants they would replace and they support more high wage jobs than any other source of electricity. The rules would require carbon capture and storage (CCS)—a promising but not adequately demonstrated technology.



Employers and Consumers are Already Paying the Price

A recent EPA rule known as MATS has already resulted in the announced closure of 77 coal-based electricity generation plants. These plants can generate enough power for 15 million homes. Experts project a total of 209 coal-based electricity plants will permanently close

due to this rule. Economy-wide, the rule is forecasted to result in 835,000 jobs lost by 2020. Communities will lose jobs and significant tax revenue needed to support local government services, schools and hospitals.

Businesses and Families Will Face Higher Energy Costs



Our country needs new high efficiency coal plants to replace those closing due to other EPA rules and to assure that businesses and households continue to have a diverse, reliable and affordable electricity supply. A less diverse mix of electricity sources leaves businesses and households vulnerable to higher and more volatile energy costs. More than half of American households devote over 20 percent of their family budget to energy costs – more than double that of ten years ago. Higher energy costs impose a regressive tax on low and middle income families, and those on fixed incomes.

New EPA Carbon Regulations Prevent Environmental Progress

Through technological advances and large investments, coal-based electricity can continue to supply affordable and cleaner power for America. Over the past 30 years, coal-based electricity has increased more than 158 percent while emissions have decreased by 90 percent. With balanced policies that rely on the best currently available technologies, new high efficiency supercritical coal plants can further reduce emissions by more than 30 percent compared to older plants they would replace.