Clean Energy Policies for the State of Illinois

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Overview

- Power plants are the largest source of carbon pollution in the U.S., accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.
- Need to meet 111(d) standards – new U.S. carbon limits.
- Fix the RPS – change of aggregation.
- Stakeholder meetings.
- Illinois mix; coal (40%), nuclear (50%), renewable/gas.
- Opportunity to have IL at center RGGI.
Actions/Policies in Response to Climate Change

- Federal EPA – 111(d) rule
  - On June 2, 2014, EPA, under President Obama’s Climate Action Plan, proposed a commonsense plan to cut carbon pollution from existing power plants. The Clean Power Plan will maintain an affordable, reliable energy system, while cutting pollution and protecting our health and environment now and for future generations.
Federal EPA

- The proposal will reduce carbon pollution by over 30 percent by 2030.
- The agency’s proposal is flexible—reflecting the different needs of different states.
- Set state specific goals.
- Goals give states flexibility.
Clean Power Plan

- EPA is proposing a two-part goal structure: an “interim goal” that a state must meet on average over the ten-year period from 2020-2029 and a “final goal” that a state must meet at the end of that period in 2030 and thereafter.

- States can develop a state-only plan or collaborate with each other to develop plans on a multi-state basis to meet the goals outlined in the proposal.
Clean Power Plan

- Some of the measures states can choose to rely on in their plans include, but are not limited to:
  - demand-side energy efficiency programs
  - renewable energy standards
  - efficiency improvements at plants
  - co-firing or switching to natural gas
  - construction of new Natural Gas Combined-Cycle plants
  - transmission efficiency improvements
  - energy storage technology
  - retirements
  - expanding renewables like wind and solar
  - expanding nuclear
  - market-based trading programs
  - energy conservation programs
Clean Energy Jobs Bill HB 2607

- Renewable energy standards 20% by 2025 and 35% by 2030.
- 32,000 annual new jobs.
- Revising the RPS to increase the share of power coming from renewable sources.
- Increasing energy efficiency standards to reduce electricity use in Illinois by 20% by 2025 by weatherizing buildings, upgrading appliances and technologies.
- Support market based strategies to reduce carbon.
Low Carbon Portfolio Standard SB1585

- Require utilities to purchase 70% of low carbon energy credits from energy sources that emit zero or low amount of carbon dioxide.
- Those benefitting from the renewable set asides would not be eligible.
- Sunset December 31, 2021.
- Limit consumer increase to 2.015% annually over 2009 retail prices.
- Maintains existing sources of low carbon while IL determines best approach to reducing carbon emissions by 30 percent from 2005 levels by 2030.
Summary

Illinois’ response to climate change

- Illinois is developing plans to meet the 111(d) plan.
- Current legislation.
- Plans are due in 2016 or 2017 if using regional approach.