Overview of U.S. EPA’s Clean Power Plan Rules
Environmental Justice Advisory Committee Deep Dive
March 11, 2015
Clean Power Plan Overview

- Central component of President Obama’s “Climate Action Plan.”
- Rules issued this August under Section 111 of the federal Clean Air Act create GHG emission limits for power plants.
- Today’s focus is on the section 111(d) emission guidelines for existing power plants– the “Clean Power Plan” or “CPP.”
- The CPP would yield 32% reductions from 2005 levels of CO₂ from covered plants by 2030 nationally.
- Rule encourages states to consider trading programs and other flexible approaches because it applies to many different plants in the sector.
Clean Power Plan Benefits (from US EPA)

- Nationally, reduces SO2 by 280,000 short tons by 2030; Nox by 278,000 short tons, and CO2 by 413,000,000 short tons.

- Nationally, translates to avoiding 3,600 premature deaths, 1,700 heart attacks, 90,000 asthma attacks, 300,000 missed workdays and schooldays

- Underlines national shift towards cleaner energy, renewable power, and energy efficiency, and supports jobs in those sectors.

- Encourages engagement with disadvantaged communities to realize these benefits.

- Effects more limited in California, because we have already made much progress compared to nation as a whole.
Affected Units

- Located in 15 different air districts
  - SCAQMD - 73 Units; 24 facilities
  - SJ VAPCD - 46 units facilities; 22 facilities
  - BAAQMD - 36 Units; 13 Facilities
  - MDAQMD - 24 units; 12 facilities
  - SDAPCD - 20 Units; 7 facilities

- Units continue to be controlled by federal, state, and local regulations for toxics and criteria pollutants. Any emissions increase above relevant thresholds would trigger appropriate action.
Implications for California

- Federal targets are well above emissions level California power sector is likely to achieve by 2030 under state programs.

- California EGUs are likely to be below federal targets by over 10 million short tons by 2030. This means that the CPP, alone, will likely not drive emissions reductions in California – state programs do that.

- State programs, including the Cap-and-Trade Regulation, are likely to be used to assure compliance through a “State Measures”-based compliance plan.

- Option of pursuing the “Clean Energy Incentive Program” for further disadvantaged community investments.
Implications for the Region

- CPP is likely to reinforce progress towards cleaner energy throughout the West.
- Successful implementation will likely support major regional and national emissions reductions.
- Because California is ahead of the game, we benefit most when we integrate the CPP into our own successful programs and when we support national implementation to cut emissions.
Progress and Timeline

- ARB has issued a white paper describing potential compliance pathways:

- California’s compliance plan will be coordinated with the Cap-and-Trade Regulation, Scoping Plan, and post-2020 planning. We are planning on a July 2016 Board meeting on these items.

- We expect to submit a final plan to US EPA in spring or summer 2017.
Likely Compliance Plan Structure

- Proposed plan uses Cap-and-Trade system for enforceability purposes, and to show compliance with the federal requirements. Requires CPP affected EGUs to participate (as essentially all do), and to monitor emissions.

- If reductions do not fully materialize from the sector, a “backstop” measure ensures that the sector makes up those emissions in the next compliance period.

- Federal enforceability of these provisions would include EPA, ARB, and citizen enforcement.
Engaging Disadvantaged and EJ Communities

- Plans for engagement include:
  - Continued consultation with the EJAC. Informal comments from members always welcome. Formal comments welcome as well. Most helpful before May.
  - Invitations to community groups (including those recommended by EJAC) in affected communities to participate in the public process, with translation services.
  - Outreach to tribal representatives.
  - Regional workshops as appropriate.
## Identifying EJ Groups for engagement

- Organizations represented by EJAC Members

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<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>• Environmental Justice Coalition for Water</td>
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<td>• Oak Park Neighborhood Association</td>
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<td>San Joaquin Valley</td>
<td>• Association of Irritated Residents</td>
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<td>• Clinica Sierra Vista</td>
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EJAC Feedback from 12/7/15

- SB535 Coalition’s Energy Committee
  - APEN

- CA Environmental Justice Alliance Energy Committee
  - APEN, Committees for a Better Environment, CAUSE (Oxnard), Environmental Health Coalition

- Tribes – American Indian Education Centers via CA Dept. of Education, Superintendent of public instruction
Questions for the EJAC

● What additional resources should ARB consider to further engage individuals in vulnerable communities?

● Can you identify any additional Environmental Justice Organizations that we should specifically contact?

● Are there specific choices ARB should consider in designing its CPP Compliance Plan to address potential environmental justice concerns?