



SOUTHWEST ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT

Saving Money and Protecting the Environment Through More Efficient Energy Use

PRESS RELEASE

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EPA Asked to Support Energy Efficiency In Proposed Carbon Emission Standards for Existing Power Plants

BOULDER, CO – The Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP) and four other regional energy efficiency organizations working in 42 states today recommended the U.S. EPA count increased efficiency of energy use toward carbon emissions standards for existing power plants. EPA is under Presidential directive to issue proposed emission standards by June 1, 2014.

In a policy report, the organizations asked the EPA to craft standards that enable states to make full use of energy efficiency, which they pointed out is the most cost-effective option for reducing power plant carbon emissions.

“The EPA should encourage states to pursue cost-effective energy efficiency initiatives to the maximum degree possible within their state plans and provide the flexibility to achieve compliance at the utility, state or multi-state levels,” said SWEEP Executive Director Howard Geller, lead author of the report. “Not only will this approach help states and utilities meet carbon emission reduction targets, it will help households and businesses save money on energy costs.”

The report, [*Incentivizing and Providing Appropriate Credit for Energy Efficiency Improvement in Forthcoming CO2 Emissions Standards for Existing Power Plants*](#), was issued jointly by the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP), the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership (NEEP), the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA), the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA), and the South-Central Partnership for Energy Efficiency as a Resource (SPEER).





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EPA is expected to issue proposed carbon emissions standards for existing power plants by June 1, 2014 and final standards by June 1, 2015. States will then have 13 months to develop plans to comply with the standards.

EPA issued proposed carbon standards for *new* power plants on Sept. 20, 2013. ##

The Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP) is a public interest organization dedicated to advancing energy efficiency in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. To learn more, visit www.swenergy.org.

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