



EPA'S CLEAN POWER PLAN BENEFITS NORTH CAROLINA

Reducing carbon pollution in line with the Clean Power Plan provides an opportunity for North Carolina to create more jobs in the clean energy sector, lower electricity bills, promote healthier families and communities, and protect the state's valuable coastal resources.

- **Job Creation.** Last year the solar industry created jobs nearly 20 times faster than the overall U.S. economy. There are now more solar jobs in the country than coal mining jobs, and the forecasted growth of solar jobs in the coming year is 8 times greater than oil, gas, and coal combined.¹ North Carolina ranks 8th in the nation in solar jobs, with 2,500 new jobs created since 2013.²
- **Lower Electricity Bills.** Improving energy efficiency and reducing demand on the grid will help customers save money on their electricity bills. North Carolina customers will save \$201-348 million dollars per year in 2030 and beyond if the state complies with the Clean Power Plan through increases in energy efficiency and renewables.³
- **Healthier Communities.** The pollutants released from fossil fuel-fired power plants threaten public health by increasing the risk of premature death and a variety of heart and lung illnesses. A recent Harvard study shows that North Carolina ranks 7th nationwide in public health gains from implementing the Clean Power plan through potential avoided premature deaths, hospitalizations, and nonfatal heart attacks.⁴
- **Protection of Coasts of North Carolina.** The way of life and tourism-based economy in coastal North Carolina are being severely threatened by climate-change related forces, such as sea level rise and intense hurricanes that are eroding the beautiful beaches along the 210-mile island chain. Sea level rise along the North Carolina coast is estimated to be 6-8 inches over the next 30 years and 1-meter (39 in.) by the year 2100.⁵



¹ The Solar Foundation, *Solar Industry Jobs 2014*. <http://www.thesolarfoundation.org/solar-jobs-census/national/>

² The Solar Foundation, *State Solar Jobs 2014*. <http://pre.thesolarfoundation.org/solarstates/north-carolina>

³ Synapse Energy Economics, Inc., *Alternate Scenarios for 111(d) Implementation in North Carolina*, pg 20, Nov. 26, 2014

⁴ Harvard School of Public Health, *Health Co-benefits of Carbon Standards for Existing Power Plants*, 2014. <http://www.chgeharvard.org/sites/default/files/userfiles2/Health%20Co-Benefits%20of%20Carbon%20Standards.pdf>

⁵ North Carolina Coastal Resource Commission. *North Carolina Sea-Level Rise Assessment Report*, March 2015. http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=223b4b3d-87fb-48b8-8470-8d417f13c4da&groupId=38319

EPA's CLEAN POWER PLAN: EASY TARGET FOR NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina can already achieve beyond its Clean Power Plan target for 2030 based on actions already taken by utilities and meeting the requirements of existing state law. No new commitments are needed to comply.

1,722 lbs/MWh

2012 Baseline Carbon Pollution Rate

110%

Reduction already planned by utilities

- 7% Existing energy efficiency programs
- 3% Coal plant retirements and improvements
- 43% Existing and under-construction natural gas
- 5% Eligible nuclear energy
- 7% Existing wind and solar resources
- 45% Existing renewable portfolio standard requirements (assuming standard is met through 10.5% renewables and 2% annual incremental energy efficiency savings)

110% of Target Rate achievable through existing actions and meeting state laws

992 lbs/MWh

2030 Target Carbon Pollution Rate for Clean Power Plan

110%

975 lbs/MWh

2030 Carbon Pollution Rate based on existing actions and commitments