

By: Senator E. Williams

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONCERNING THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY'S PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR EXISTING FOSSIL
FUEL-FIRED POWER PLANTS.

Subtitle

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS:

WHEREAS, Arkansas currently enjoys electricity prices that are
significantly below the national average price of electricity; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas has benefited from a diverse mix of electricity
sources that includes coal, nuclear, natural gas, renewable resources,
and other sources; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a diverse, reliable, and affordable
electricity supply is vital to Arkansas's economic growth, jobs, and
the overall well-being of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2014, the United States Environmental
Protection Agency (EPA) issued proposed guidelines limiting carbon
dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-fired power plants in Arkansas and



other states under § 111(d) of the Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS, EPA's proposal requires the State of Arkansas to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions rate of its electric generating fleet by more than forty percent (40%), the sixth-largest emission reduction requirement of any state; and

WHEREAS, EPA's proposal is based on emission-reduction measures that directly involve the regulation of electricity, which is the prerogative of the states; and

WHEREAS, EPA's proposal will have a major impact on the electric ratepayers of Arkansas, especially low-income and middle-income families, and the economy of the State of Arkansas,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate finds that EPA's proposed guidelines for reducing carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-fired power plants under § 111(d) of the Clean Air Act interfere with the sovereign power of the State of Arkansas to regulate electricity and to determine the mix of energy resources that ensures reliable and affordable supplies of electricity for its citizens. The Senate urges the Governor, the Attorney General, the Arkansas Public Service Commission, and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to provide comments to EPA regarding the proposed guidelines and the adverse impacts of EPA's proposal on the economy of Arkansas and its citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate urges EPA to withdraw the proposed guidelines for reducing carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-fired power plants under § 111(d) of the Clean Air Act and propose new guidelines that respect the primacy of the State of Arkansas to determine the emission reduction requirements that are in the best interest of its citizens.