



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

NOV 21 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Ryan Benefield
Interim Director
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118

Dear Mr. Benefield:

This is in response to a letter of September 4, 2014, from Ms. Teresa Marks and other state representatives to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the proposed Clean Power Plan, which was signed on June 2, 2014, and published in the Federal Register on June 18, 2014. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

You requested illustrative examples of how states could convert their rate-based goals to mass, including the underlying calculations and assumptions. On November 6, 2014, EPA issued a technical document that provides two examples of how a state, area of Indian country or territory could translate its rate-based goal to total metric tons of carbon dioxide (a mass-based equivalent). The example translations in the technical support document are not based on any new information, nor do they change the rate-based state goals outlined in the Clean Power Plan proposal. The technical support document is available at <http://www2.epa.gov/carbon-pollution-standards/clean-power-plan-proposed-rule-notice-additional-information-regarding>.

In your letter, you also requested an extension of the comment period. Recognizing that the proposal asks for comment on a range of issues, some of which are complex, the EPA initially proposed this rule with a 120-day comment period. The EPA already extended the comment period by an additional 45 days, in order to get the best possible advice and data to inform a final rule. The public comment period will remain open until December 1, 2014. We have submitted your letter to the rulemaking docket.

Again, thank you for your letter. I appreciate the opportunity to be of service and hope this response has been helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet G. McCabe".

Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator