

**Synapse**  
Energy Economics, Inc.



**HARVARD LAW SCHOOL**  
Environmental Law Program  
POLICY INITIATIVE

# Final Clean Power Plan: First Cut

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August 5, 2015

*Speakers*

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Content questions for today's speakers can be directed to  
[webinar@synapse-energy.com](mailto:webinar@synapse-energy.com)

# Webinar Logistics

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- The webinar is being recorded and will be circulated to all attendees
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# EPA Rules and Documents Released on August 3

1. The Clean Power Plan – final rule
2. Proposed Federal Plan and Proposed Model Rules – proposed rules
3. Carbon Pollution Standards for New, Modified, and Reconstructed Power Plants – final rule
4. Regulatory Impact Analyses
5. Technical Support Documents
6. Draft Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification (EM&V) Guidance for Demand-Side Energy Efficiency



# The Big Change in the Final Clean Power Plan

The final rule is premised on nationally uniform, unit-specific performance rates, and not state targets.

The change is motivated in part by EPA's legal defense.



# Clean Air Act Section 111

- EPA sets a “standard of performance” for a source category.
- For existing sources, 111(d) provides that each state shall submit a plan to EPA that “establishes standards of performance for any existing source” to which a standard of performance would apply if that source were a new source.
- “**standard of performance** means a standard for emissions of air pollutants which reflects the degree of emission limitation achievable through the application of the best system of emission reduction . . .”
- There are no court decisions about 111(d) standards.

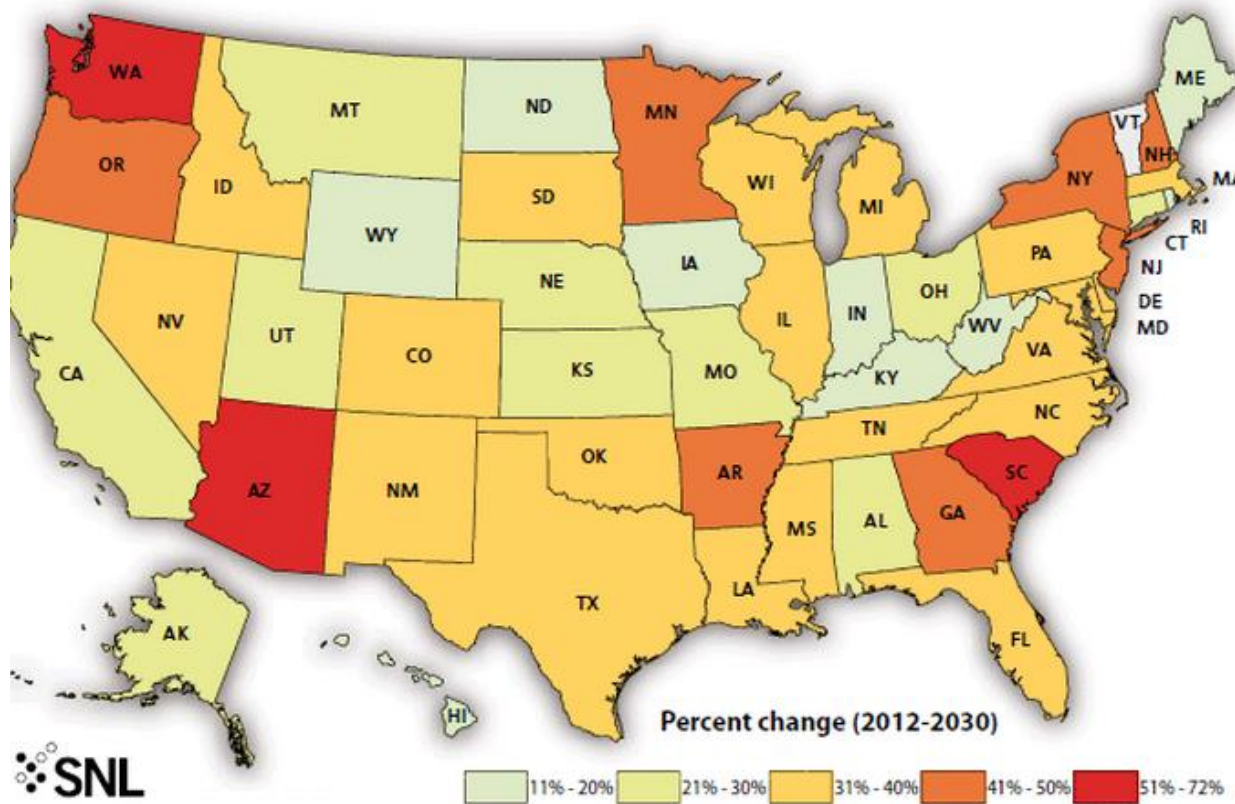


# EPA's 2014 Proposal

- The Best System of Emission Reduction (BSER) *applied to each state's fleet of generators* and consisted of:
  1. Heat rate improvements to coal-fired plants;
  2. Shifting utilization from coal-fired plants to NGCCs;
  3. Displacing emitting generation with renewables; and
  4. Increasing end-use energy efficiency.



# EPA's 2014 Proposal



| State         | Final emissions rate goal (2030+) | State          | Final emissions rate goal (2030+) |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Alabama       | 1,059                             | Montana        | 1,771                             |
| Alaska        | 1,003                             | Nebraska       | 1,479                             |
| Arizona       | 702                               | Nevada         | 647                               |
| Arkansas      | 910                               | New Hampshire  | 486                               |
| California    | 537                               | New Jersey     | 531                               |
| Colorado      | 1,108                             | New Mexico     | 1,048                             |
| Connecticut   | 540                               | New York       | 549                               |
| Delaware      | 841                               | North Carolina | 992                               |
| Florida       | 740                               | North Dakota   | 1,783                             |
| Georgia       | 834                               | Ohio           | 1,338                             |
| Hawaii        | 1,306                             | Oklahoma       | 895                               |
| Idaho         | 228                               | Oregon         | 372                               |
| Illinois      | 1,271                             | Pennsylvania   | 1,052                             |
| Indiana       | 1,531                             | Rhode Island   | 782                               |
| Iowa          | 1,301                             | South Carolina | 772                               |
| Kansas        | 1,499                             | South Dakota   | 741                               |
| Kentucky      | 1,763                             | Tennessee      | 1,163                             |
| Louisiana     | 883                               | Texas          | 791                               |
| Maine         | 378                               | Utah           | 1,322                             |
| Maryland      | 1,187                             | Virginia       | 810                               |
| Massachusetts | 576                               | Washington     | 215                               |
| Michigan      | 1,161                             | West Virginia  | 1,620                             |
| Minnesota     | 873                               | Wisconsin      | 1,203                             |
| Mississippi   | 692                               | Wyoming        | 1,714                             |
| Missouri      | 1,544                             |                |                                   |



# Legal and Practical Critiques Of EPA's 2014 Proposal

- State goals
- Non-Emitters
- Building Block 4
- Timing





# EPA's Solutions in the Final Rule

- Set uniform emission guidelines for Fossil Steam (coal and O/G) and NGCC units.
- Make EGUs the only entities with federally enforceable requirements, while providing states with flexibility.
- Remove end-use energy efficiency from BSER but allow it to be used for compliance, primarily as a credit-generating mechanism.
- Push compliance period to 2022.



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# Differences in BSER

$$\text{Proposed 111(d) Emission Rate} = \frac{\text{Fossil Fuel Emissions (lbs of CO}_2\text{)}}{\text{Fossil Fuel Generation (MWh)} + \text{Nuclear Generation (MWh)} + \text{Renewable Generation (MWh)} + \text{Energy Efficiency (MWh)}}$$

$$\text{Final 111(d) BSER Emission Rate for Fossil Steam} = \frac{\text{Fossil Steam Emissions (lbs of CO}_2\text{)}^1 + \text{NGCC Incremental Emissions (lbs of CO}_2\text{)}}{\text{Fossil Steam Generation (MWh)} + \text{NGCC Incremental Generation (MWh)} + \text{Renewable Generation (MWh)}^2}$$

$$\text{Final 111(d) BSER Emission Rate for NGCC} = \frac{\text{NGCC Emissions (lbs of CO}_2\text{)}^3}{\text{NGCC Generation (MWh)}^3 + \text{Renewable Generation (MWh)}^2}$$

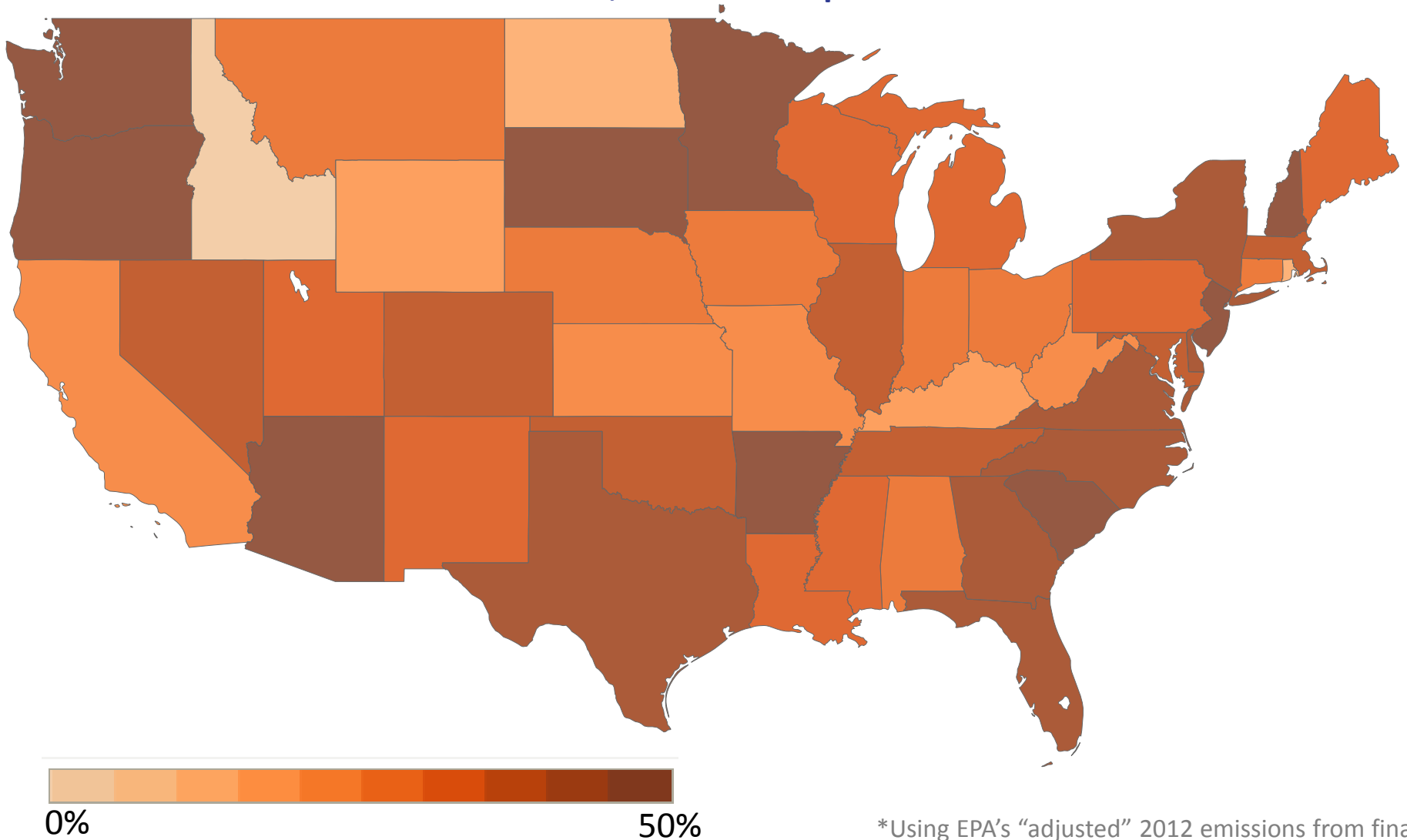
[1] Fossil Steam emissions adjusted for heat rate improvements

[2] Renewable generation is the amount of renewables that displace either Fossil Steam or NGCC

[3] NGCC emissions and generation include all NGCC generation and emissions, including the incremental pieces

# Proposed Rule Reductions

Mass Reduction from 2012\* to 2030; without complements



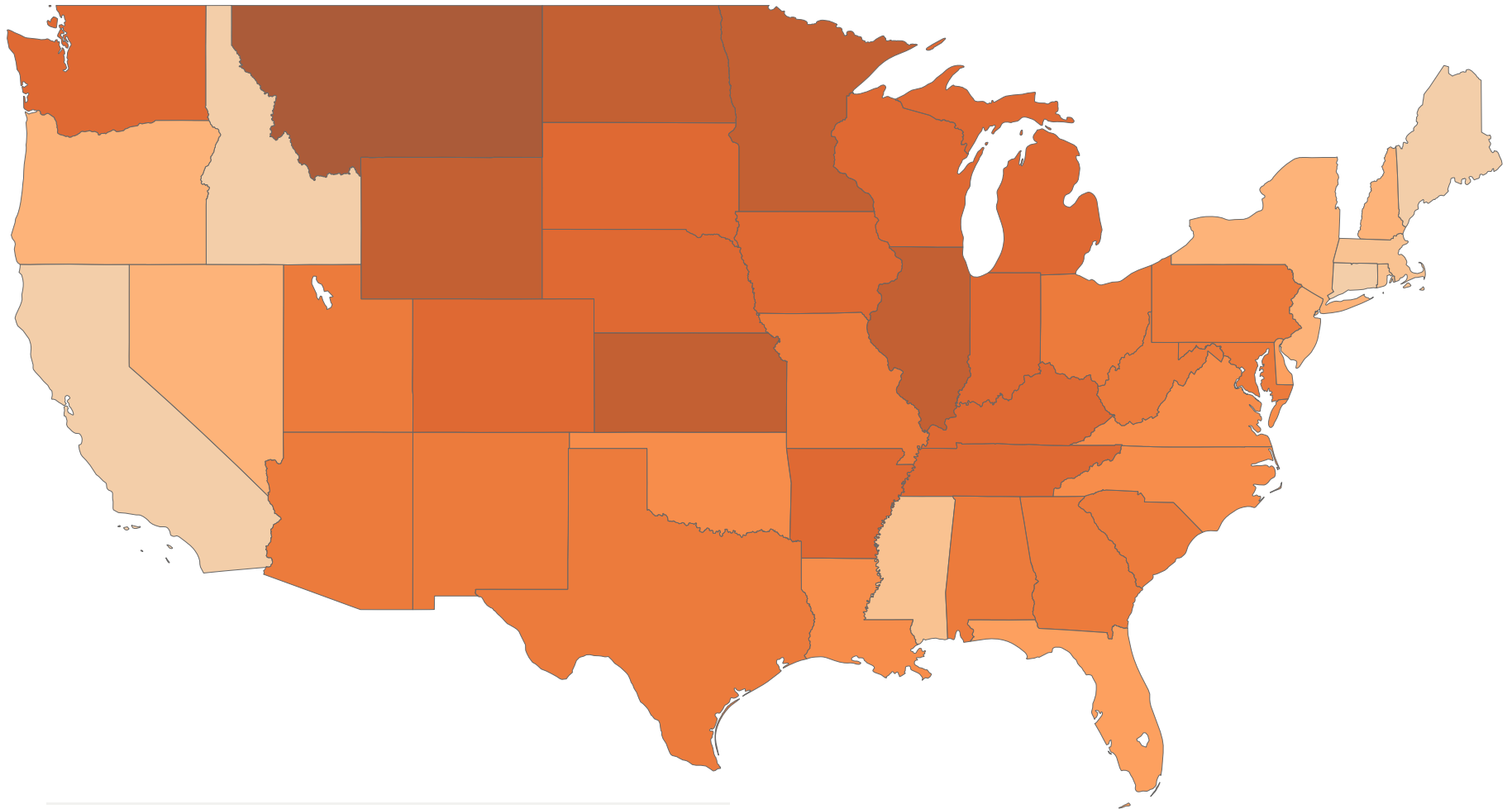
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50%

\*Using EPA's "adjusted" 2012 emissions from final

# Final Rule Reductions

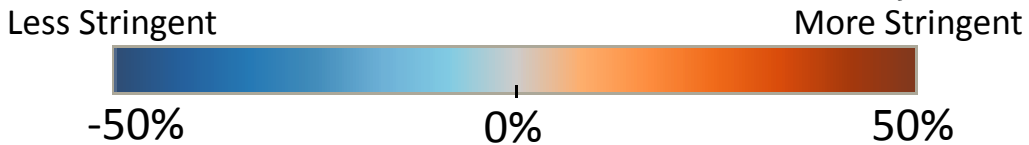
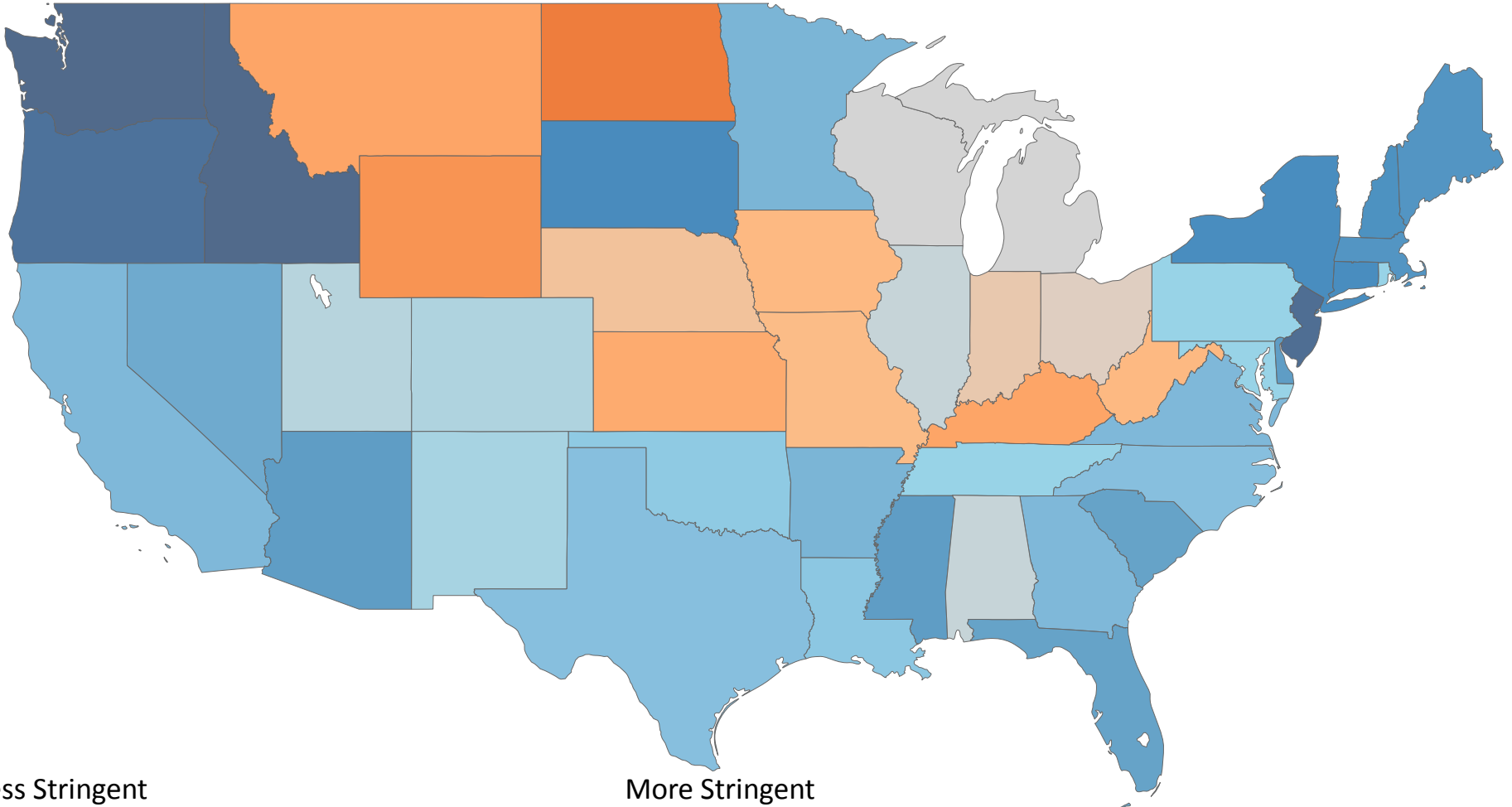
Mass Reduction from 2012\* to 2030; without complements



\*Using EPA's "adjusted" 2012 emissions from final

# Change in Stringency from Proposal to Final

Change in Reduction Requirement, Relative to 2012



# U.S. Reductions from 2012 to 2030

without New Source Complements

|                    | Existing Sources Only | Existing and New Sources |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Proposed Reduction | 748 million tons      | 509 million tons         |
|                    | 34%                   | 23%                      |
| Final Reduction    | 587 million tons      | 547 million tons         |
|                    | 26%                   | 25%                      |

# Compliance Pathways

## Rate-based Compliance (lbs/MWh)

Model Rules

R1

### Subcategorized CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Rates

*Two specific nationwide emission rate limits for coal plants and NGCC plants*

R2

### State CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Rates

*Each power plants must meet the single state average (derived using the nationwide emission rate limits and the share of these resources in a given state)*

R3

### Different CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Rates

*The state allows some flexibility in individual power plant's emission rates, as long as the total rate matches the one created by EPA*

## Mass-based Compliance (tons CO<sub>2</sub>)

M1

### CO<sub>2</sub> Mass Goal for Existing Units

*A statewide emission cap is applied to existing fossil units. States must demonstrate that there is no "leakage" of generation to new fossil units*

M2

### CO<sub>2</sub> Mass Goal for Existing Units with New Unit Complement

*A statewide emission cap is applied to all fossil units, existing or new.*

M3

### State Measures: CO<sub>2</sub> Mass Goal for Existing Units

*A statewide portfolio of strategies is used to meet the EPA goal for emissions from existing units*

M4

### State Measures: CO<sub>2</sub> Mass Goal for Existing and New Units

*A statewide portfolio of strategies is used to meet the EPA goal for emissions from existing and new units*





# Emission Rate Credits

- Emissions Rate Credits (ERCs)
  - Unit of trade for rate-based states, produced in MWh
  - Are not RECs, but similar structure to unbundled RECs
  - For low or no emissions resources
    - or**
    - Affected unit generation below subcategory rate
      - or**
      - Incremental NGCC generation above baseline (“gas-shift ERCs”)
- Emissions Rate Credits generated by any low or no emissions resource installed in 2013 or thereafter.
  - Credits only accrue after 2022
  - ERCs can be banked indefinitely.
  - Gas-shift ERCs can only be used in subcategory rate states for fossil steam compliance



# Emission Rate Credits

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- ERCs can be issued to
  - Renewable energy (wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, wave, tidal)
  - Qualified biomass
  - Waste-to-energy (biogenic portion)
  - Nuclear
  - Non-affected CHP
  - Energy efficiency
  - Transmission & distribution improvements
  - Other approved resources
- ERCs cannot be issued to
  - Energy storage
  - New stationary sources
- ERCs cannot be issued from mass-based states to rate-based states unless the producer holds a power purchase agreement with the rate-based state

# Trading Mechanisms

## Mass-Based Trading

- Allowance-based system
- Traditional cap-and-trade
- States establish allowance system, subject to EPA approval.

## ERC Trading

- ERCs can be traded through central system (to be established) or bilateral trades
- States responsible for EM&V on ERCs

## Rate-Based Trading

- Requires common rate standard (i.e. multi-state plan) or subcategory-specific emission rates
- States establish crediting system, subject to EPA approval

# Multi-State Issues

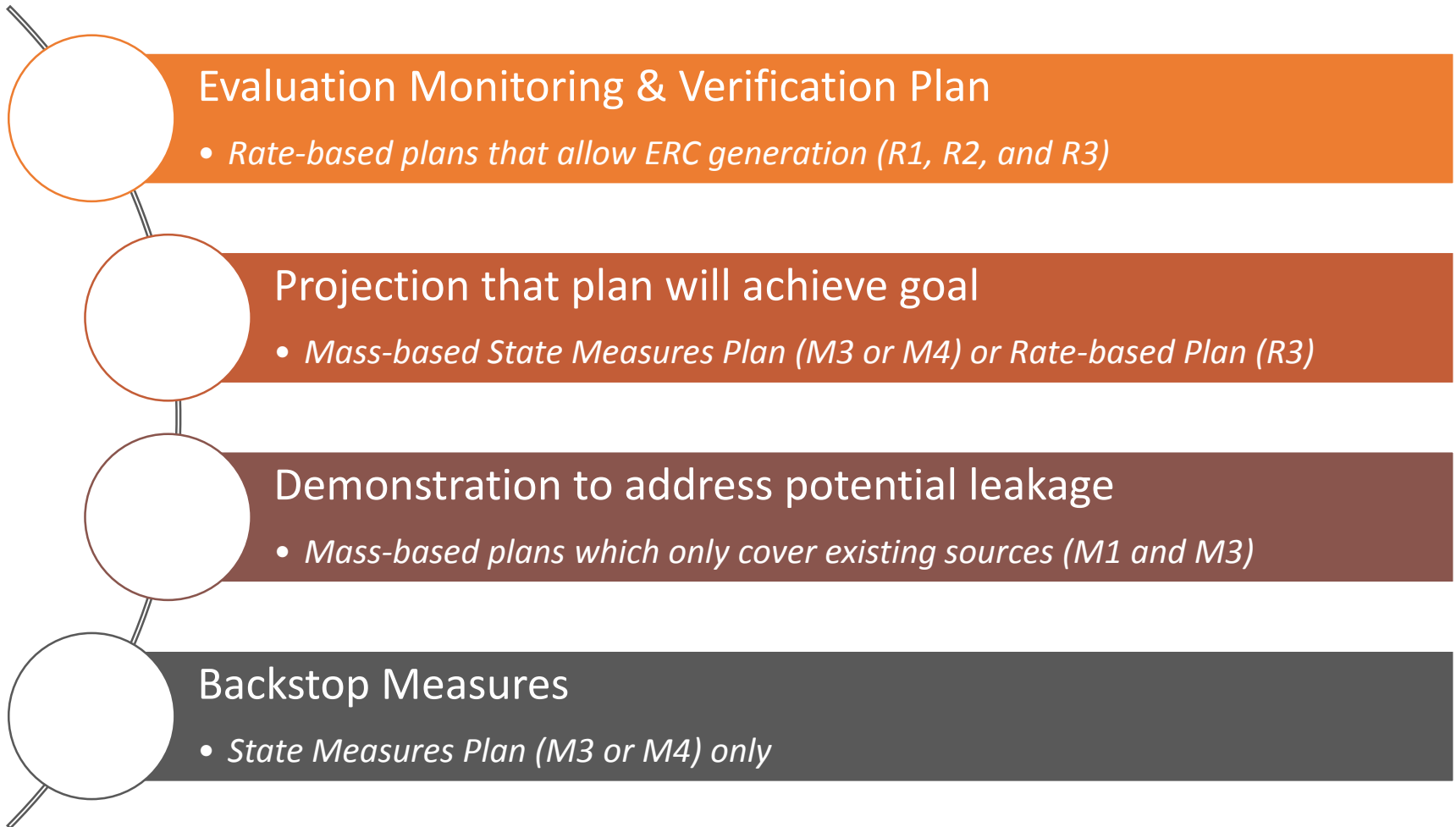
## Multi-State Plans

- States may submit multi-state plans
  - Mass: aggregate total CO<sub>2</sub> targets
  - Rate: Weighted average emissions rate (based on 2012 generation)
- Advantages
  - Facilitates rate-based trading
  - Assures uniform treatment of ERCs (rate)
  - Not as critical under final as in proposal

## Leakage

- EPA concerned about leakage from existing sources to new sources under mass approach
  - Specific demonstration of no-leakage, or
  - Allowance allocation to advantage existing sources
- EPA concerned (less) about ERC leakage to mass-based states
  - Mass-based states may not produce ERCs unless a PPA is in place for generating units

# Plan Components



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# Compliance Periods

**Interim Period:** Jan. 1, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2029, comprised of three interim steps:

- Step 1: Jan. 1, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2024
- Step 2: Jan. 1, 2025 – Dec. 31, 2027
- Step 3: Jan. 1, 2028 – Dec. 31, 2029

**Final Period:** Jan. 1, 2030 and every year thereafter

**Final Reporting Period:** A two-year increment of plan performance within the Final Period; first reporting period is Jan. 1, 2030 – Dec. 31, 2031.

# CPP State Submission Timelines

- **Aug. 3, 2015:** EPA issued final rule
- **Sept. 6, 2016:** State plan/initial submittal deadline
- **Sept. 6, 2017:** Update for states submitting in 2018
- **Sept. 6, 2018:** Deadline for state, multi-state plans
- **July 1, 2023:** Deadline for 1<sup>st</sup> annual **state measures** report (becomes biannual in final period)
- **July 1, 2025:** Deadline for 1<sup>st</sup> interim step report
- **July 1, 2028:** Deadline for 2<sup>nd</sup> interim step report
- **July 1, 2032:** Deadline for first final period report





# Initial 2016 Submissions

States can submit a final plan in 2016. Or, States can make an initial submission which must:

- Identify final plan approaches being considered by the state;
- Justify needing additional time to submit;
- Describe public comment, engagement opportunities;
- Include non-binding statement of intent to participate in the “early credit” Clean Energy Incentive Program

Initial submissions are considered granted unless EPA notifies a state within 90 days of receipt.

Failure to submit will trigger the “FIP Process.”



# 2017 Reports

If a state was granted an extension after filing an initial submission, it must file a report in 2017.

The 2017 report must:

- Summarize the status of each component of the final plan
- Commit to a plan approach
- Include a comprehensive roadmap with a schedule and milestones for completing the final plan
- Include non-binding statement of intent to participate in the “early credit” Clean Energy Incentive Program



# Final Plans

A final plan must:

- Identify affected EGUs, and the emission standards and compliance periods;
- Identify applicable monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements;
- Describe reporting obligations, timelines; and
- Require implementation of corrective measures, if triggered

If the plan relies on state measures, the plan must:

- Demonstrate the measures will achieve compliance and
- Describe a federally enforceable backstop



# Enforcement of State Plans

- A state can enforce EGU emission standards or state measures.
- EPA can enforce EGU emission standards, EGU false material statements in compliance reports or failure to submit reports, and falsification of monitoring data.
- Citizens can enforce EGU emission standards but not state measures (citizens groups can enforce the backstop).



# Requirements for Emission Standards, Credits, and Allowances in State Plans

Each EGU emission standard (whether based on the unit's emissions, allowances, or ERCs) and each state measure must be:

- Quantifiable: reliably measured in a replicable manner;
- Non-duplicative: not already incorporated in another state plan;
- Permanent: persists for a compliance period;
- Verifiable: adequate monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting requirements are in place; and
- Enforceable: specifies a clearly defined, technically accurate limitation or requirement, time period for compliance, methodology for determining compliance, and there is sufficient legal authority.



# Proposed Federal Plan

- EPA will promulgate a federal plan only in the states that did not submit an approvable state plan or did not receive an extension in 2016.
- EPA has proposed two types of federal plans – a mass-based trading program and a rate-based trading program – but intends to use a single type of plan for every state that gets a federal plan.
- EPA has proposed that the federal plans' rules could be used by states to implement trading programs in their plans.
- The mass-based federal plan is similar to the Clean Air Mercury Rule (2005).



# Synapse Clean Power Plan Resources

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**Synapse Clean Power Plan Toolkit:** <http://synapse-energy.com/CleanPowerPlan>

**Consumer Costs of Low-Emissions Futures Factsheets and Reports:** <http://synapse-energy.com/project/consumer-costs-low-emissions-futures>

**Clean Power Plan Reports and Outreach for National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates:** <http://synapse-energy.com/project/clean-power-plan-reports-and-outreach-national-association-state-utility-consumer-advocates>

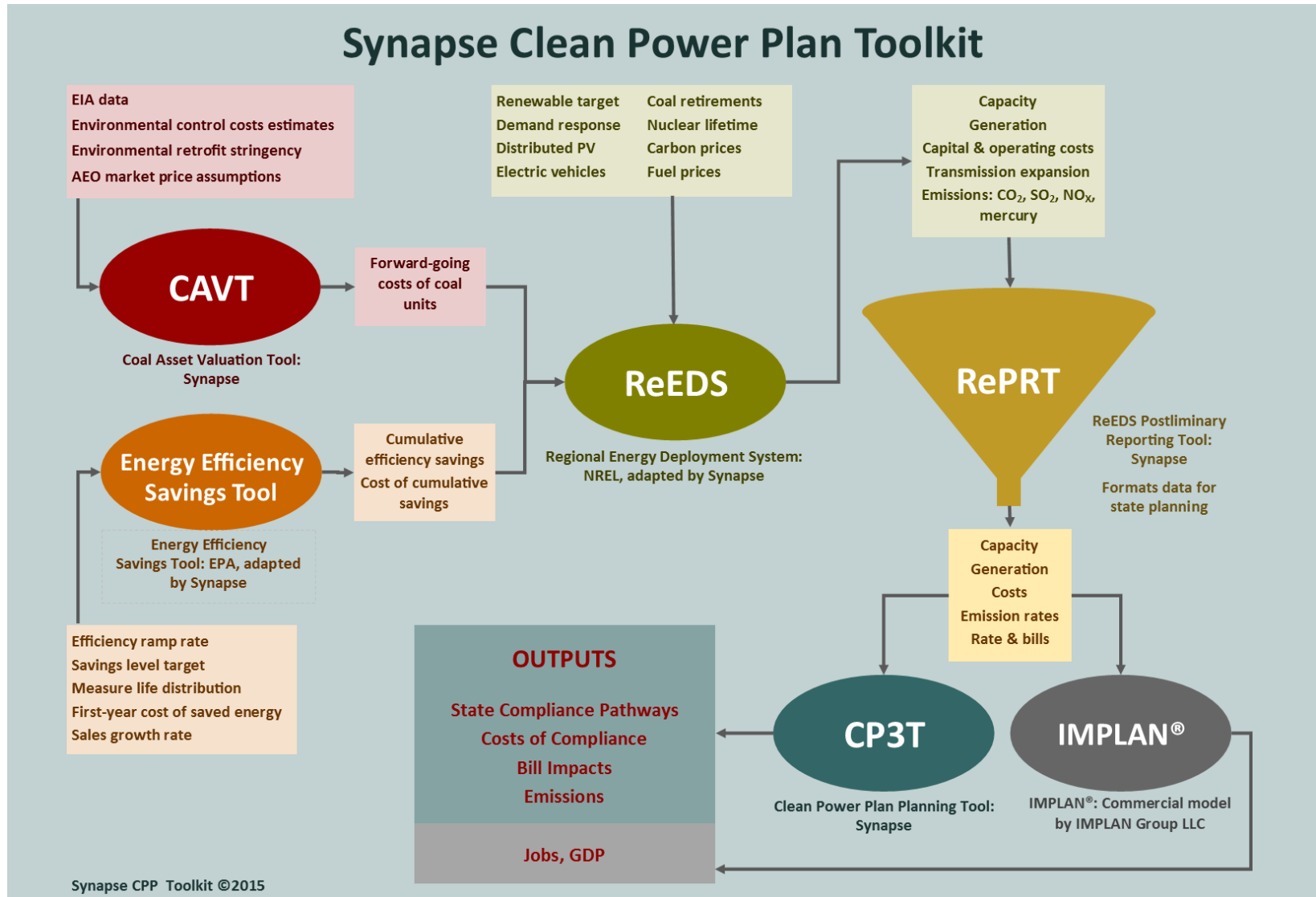
**Past Clean Power Plan Webinars (Synapse YouTube Channel):**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjkmjf7Lb34WvCXkV2XUvWw>

**Entering the Matrix: Compliance Options under the Final Clean Power Plan:** <http://synapse-energy.com/about-us/news/entering-matrix-compliance-options-under-final-clean-power-plan>

**Eight Things You Need to Know about the Clean Power Plan:** <http://synapse-energy.com/about-us/news/eight-things-you-need-know-about-clean-power-plan>

# Synapse Clean Power Plan Toolkit





# Stay Tuned!

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Synapse is offering a series of webinars related to the final rule, updates to our compliance model, and impacts of the rule on consumer bills.

**August 11:** “Displacing Emissions and the Clean Power Plan”

**August 18:** “Final Clean Power Plan: In Detail”

**August 26:** “Integrating Renewables onto the Grid”

**September 1:** “Updates to Synapse’s CP3T”

**September 15:** “Brief #3: Modeling the Final Rule”

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# Extra Slides

| Approach  | Trading Notes  | Multi-state Notes   | Compliance Determination  |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>R1. Subcategorized CO2 emission rates</b>        | “Out-of-the-box” trading system will be set up by EPA for all states that use this approach                  | Multi-state plan is necessary only if you want to ensure your state can trade ERCs through a special trading system | EGUs must show that they meet the technology-specific performance rates (either for NGCCs or for Fossil Steam)  |
| <b>R2. State CO2 emission rates</b>                 | Trading systems likely only allowable within a state, or within a joined set of states                       | Multi-state plan required (?) to allow trading between the set of joined states                                     | EGUs must show that they meet the state-specific emission rate  |
| <b>R3. Different CO2 emission rates</b>             | Trading systems likely only allowable within a state   | I’m not sure multi-state compliance is possible or useful here.   | EGUs must show that they meet the state-specified emission rates, which in aggregate, equal the EPA-created state-specific emission rate  |
| <b>M1. CO2 mass goal for existing units</b>         | “Out-of-the-box” trading system will be set up by EPA for all states that use either of these two approaches | Multi-state plan may be allowable if states wish to merge emission standards (this is just PK hypothesizing)        | EGUs must show that they hold allowance permits for each ton of CO2 emitted. The total number of allowance permits made available by the state may not exceed the EPA-created mass-based goal for existing units.         |
| <b>M2. CO2 mass goal for new and existing units</b> |  |   | EGUs must show that they hold allowance permits for each ton of CO2 emitted. The total number of allowance permits made available by the state may not exceed the EPA-created mass-based goal for existing and new units. |
| <b>M3. State Measures: Existing units</b>           | Trading systems likely only allowable within a state, or within a joined set of states                       | Multi-state plan required (?) to allow trading between the set of joined states                                     | States must show that the total number of emissions in their state does not exceed the EPA-created mass-based goal for existing units.  |
| <b>M4. State Measures: Existing and new units</b>   | Trading systems likely only allowable within a state, or within a joined set of states                       | Multi-state plan required (?) to allow trading between the set of joined states                                     | States must show that the total number of emissions in their state does not exceed the EPA-created mass-based goal for existing and new units.  |