



Power Company Statements following EPA's Clean Power Plan Announcement

Since Monday, power companies around the country have been reacting to EPA's Clean Power Plan. Here is a sample of their comments:

Alliant Energy

"Alliant Energy said it's well-positioned to meet the requirements. 'We knew these carbon regulations were coming, so we've been incorporating it into our generation plan. We're at a good starting point,' said Scott Reigstad, a spokesman for Alliant Energy, an investor-owned utility based in Madison, Wis., serving 1.4 million customers in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota."

"They look ambitious but they do have a lot of flexibility built in, so that's a positive thing."

Source: [Des Moines Register](#) and [Wisconsin State Journal](#)

Calpine

"Calpine supports the EPA's proposal because we believe it will ensure continued progress toward cleaner energy in a way that supports ongoing grid reliability while allowing market forces to work to deliver the lowest-cost solution for reducing GHG emissions," said Thad Hill, Chief Executive Officer of Calpine. "With our modern, flexible, efficient fleet, Calpine is ready to meet this challenge head on."

Source: [Company press release](#)

CPS Energy

"CPS Energy President and CEO Doyle Beneby said he appreciates that the EPA will allow individual states the flexibility to determine how to best meet the new standards, and that the proposed rules will credit utilities like CPS Energy for work they have already done."

" 'In the last few years, we've taken the approach that reducing pollutants in the air is the right thing to do,' he said. 'The new rules proposed by the EPA strike a balance between where the utility industry is today and where we need to go.'"

Source: [Company press release](#)

DTE

" 'It is very important that DTE continues to make significant progress at reducing our carbon emissions, while at the same time minimizing any financial impact on customers,' DTE spokesman Alejandro Bodipo-Memba said in a statement."

Source: [M Live](#)

Dominion

" '... In principle we support the proposal to give the states flexibility to implement the guidelines in a fashion that is best for the states. We have always been committed to a diverse fuel mix for our generating units, a strategy that helps reduce costs for our customers, enhances reliability and reduces our impact on the environment,' said Dominion spokesman David Botkins."

" 'Dominion already is a low carbon producer of electricity, thanks in part of our diverse mix of generating sources. In fact, a report issues by CERES just last week showed that while we are the 10th largest producer of electricity in the United States, we rank among the lowest emitting third for carbon intensity or the amount of CO2 emitted per megawatt hour.' "

Source: [Times News](#)

El Paso Electric

" 'We're already such a low producer of CO2 (carbon dioxide), it'll be a small impact,' said El Paso Electric Chief Executive Officer Tom Shockley."

"The proposed reductions in carbon dioxide emissions is a good idea, Shockley said."

" 'I think guarding the environment is important for all of us,' Shockley said. The Obama administration is going forward with some promises Obama made during his presidential campaign, he said. 'It will make the environment cleaner.' "

Source: [Energy Central](#)

Exelon

" 'Our goal is to work with EPA to make sure the rule works,' said Joe Dominguez, senior vice president of Exelon Corp. 'There needs to be a pathway towards meaningful reductions.' "

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

Note: *comment came before rule release*

First Energy

" 'FirstEnergy Corp.'s initial reaction to the first-ever federal guidelines on carbon dioxide emission is positive,' said Ray Evans, vice president environment and technologies."

"There is 'still a lot of detail' to be studied and analyzed, but the Akron-based utility is generally pleased by the overall direction of the federal plan to reduce carbon dioxide levels by 30 percent by 2030 ... States like Ohio will provide increased flexibility in putting together final remedies, FirstEnergy's Evans said."

"By 2015, FirstEnergy will have reduced its carbon by 25 percent from 2005 levels, he said. The utility would be on track to meet the 30 percent federal reduction, if it gets credit for plant closures since 2005, he said."

" 'As proposed, the rule uses an appropriate baseline year, provides states with reasonable flexibility, and gives an adequate compliance timeline,' Stephanie Walton, a FirstEnergy spokeswoman, said in an email."

Source: [Akron Beacon Journal](#), and [McClatchy-Tribune Regional News](#)

Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company (part of PPL)

" 'We know we're headed in the right direction making prudent, thoughtful long-term decisions in how we generate electricity that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions moving forward,' said Paul W. Thompson, Chief Operating Officer, LG&E & KU."

" 'From investments at our power plants that generate electricity, to the wires and pipes that deliver electricity and natural gas, we want you to know what we're doing to comply with more stringent environmental regulations, while also ensuring dependable service for generations to come.' "

Source: *Company press releases* [here](#) and [here](#).

Note: *comment came before rule release*

Minnesota Power

" 'We anticipated strong greenhouse gas rules and have taken early measures to transition our energy supply to a more diverse mix of sources,' Al Rudeck, Minnesota Power Vice President of Strategy and Planning, said in a statement."

" 'If the targets set forth by EPA are reasonable by allowing states like Minnesota, that took carbon emission reduction early action, to count their early emission reductions towards satisfying EPA's targets, we believe we are in a good position under our EnergyForward strategy to meet this new regulation', said Minnesota Power Executive Vice President Dave McMillan. 'We look forward to continuing our work with state regulators and further implementing a carbon emissions reduction plan that meets evolving federal and state standards without sacrificing affordability and reliability for the electricity consuming customers, businesses and industries of Northeastern Minnesota.' "

Source: [Company press release](#)

NextEra Energy

"As a clean energy leader, NextEra Energy appreciates the shared responsibility we have to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the environment, while ensuring affordable, reliable energy for our customers. At NextEra Energy, we have positioned our business to manage the opportunities and risks presented by climate change issues, while simultaneously lowering emissions."

"And for customers of Florida Power & Light Company, we have been investing billions of dollars to modernize our system, converting older, oil-fired power plants into high-efficiency energy centers that run on clean, U.S.-produced natural gas and increasing our use of emissions-free nuclear and solar energy."

"...We appreciate that EPA's plan provides for compliance flexibility in terms of enabling states to choose how they will meet their goals. We also appreciate that EPA's plan recognizes the efforts that states and companies have taken already toward balancing the needs for cleaner power, lower emissions and affordable energy."

Source: [Company press release](#)

NorthWestern Energy

"Claudia Rapkoch, a NorthWestern spokeswoman in Butte, said Monday the new rules underscore the importance of NorthWestern's current proposal to buy 11 hydroelectric dams – whose power would not be subject to the costs of restricting carbon emissions."

" 'We've known all along that this is what's coming in the form of future carbon regulation,' she said. The cost of coal-fired power the company will continue to use should be 'manageable' under the rules, if that power remains a smaller piece of the utility's electricity pie, Rapkoch added."

Source: [Montana Standard](#)

NV Energy

"Some opponents believe the proposal is a war on coal... However, NV Energy tells News 4 they have been moving away from coal, and are reliant on natural gas and other renewable sources."

Source: [News 4](#)

Pacific Gas & Electric

"We are reviewing the proposed rule and will work closely with the state of California and EPA to ensure that the final rule aligns with California's Global Warming Solutions Act and the progress made to date toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions from California's electricity mix. Ultimately, PG&E wants to ensure the rule provides flexibility to recognize the unique circumstances and emissions profiles of power companies and individual states across the country, so that we and others in our industry can continue providing safe, reliable, affordable and clean energy to our customers."

Source: [Utility products](#)

PPL

" 'It appears that EPA understands a single national standard isn't the most effective way to achieve emission reductions, and that some flexibility is important,' [PPL's George C.] Lewis continued."

" 'PPL is hoping that the regulation gives credit to states and companies that already have taken actions to reduce emissions, such as retiring coal-fired power plants, building or acquiring efficient natural gas-fired plants, developing renewable energy products and reducing electricity use through efficiency programs. PPL has done all of those. '"

Source: [Lancaster Online](#)

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

“ ‘SMUD has shown that it’s possible to establish a portfolio of zero-GHG energy resources and highly efficient natural gas power plants, along with investments in energy efficiency, to achieve reduced GHG emissions while maintaining reliable and affordable electricity service for its customers,’ said SMUD General Manager and CEO Arlen Orchard.”

“ ‘It’s clear that climate change is a pressing environmental threat requiring national action to reduce carbon emissions, and we owe it to future generations to ensure the health of the planet. SMUD urges other California utilities and their industry associations to work with the governor and other state agencies to support the EPA taking strong action that includes, recognizes, and builds on what California has already done to begin reducing carbon emissions, including the implementation of AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act, the state’s cap and trade carbon trading program, and our investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other carbon-reduction efforts.’ ”

Source: [Company press release](#)

Southern California Edison

“We believe that addressing climate change through greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions in a balanced and responsible manner is an important public policy goal.

“California is a national leader in reducing carbon emissions through a market-based system. Southern California Edison has been a leader in implementing the policies and programs of the State of California to reduce GHG emissions through broad-based energy efficiency programs, support of electric vehicle adoption, and commitment to meeting the 33 percent renewable energy standard through solar, wind and other clean energy sources.

“Actions of this type by one state alone will not reverse the global path of increased GHG emissions, but they can provide leadership through large-scale examples. We support action at the national level to move in a similar direction, with lessons learned from the California experience, and proper regulatory credit given to those who have taken early action.”

Source: [Company press release](#)

Tucson Electric Power

“Tucson Electric Power is in favor of states being able to make their own emissions reductions plans. We think that there should be a range of actions that can be taken by utilities – including actions that are already in progress that would reduce emissions... And we think the compliance targets and deadlines should be achievable while minimizing cost to the customer.”

Source: [Arizona Public Media](#)

TVA

" 'We're going to have to work harder and be smarter,' TVA CEO Bill Johnson said. 'Over the last five years, we've done a lot of work in this space, we still have very competitive rates, still attract business and industry to this region. We know what that sweet spot is [in finding lower-emitting fuels that are also less expensive], and we're going to have to work harder to get there.' "

Source: *E&E Publishing*

Xcel Energy

"Xcel's investments 'have prepared us for this day,' spokeswoman Ethnie Treick said, noting that her utility's carbon emissions have decreased by 20 percent since 2005."

"Across eight states, Xcel officials project a 31 percent reduction in carbon pollution by 2020."

" 'We're going above and beyond because it is cost-effective for our customers The price of solar has come down so much that we are able to take a look at it. Wind and solar are becoming very cost-competitive with other resources.' "

Source: [Denver Post](#)