



SENATOR JOHN BARRASSO, M.D.
VICE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2011

EPA Regulations Shutting Down Coal

"Sometimes you can't defend the indefensible." – White House Chief of Staff William M. Daley

"American Electric Power Chairman Michael Morris announced last week that his company would be **forced to close five coal-fired power plants, spend an additional \$8 billion refitting other plants, and lose 6,000 megawatts of its coal-generated capacity if the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency follows through with its latest proposed regulation of coal power plants.** That's just fine with President Obama and Lisa Jackson, whom he appointed as EPA administrator. Their goal is to put people like Morris and utilities like AEP out of the coal-fired generation business." (*Editorial, Washington Examiner, June 15, 2011*)

Impacts of EPA's Clean Air Transport Rule and Utility Maximum Achievable Control Technology proposals include:

- Increased electricity sector costs by **\$184 billion or \$17.8 billion per year**;
 - **Increased U.S. retail electricity prices in 2016 by 12 percent**, with regional increases as much as about 24 percent; and,
 - **Net employment in the U.S. would be reduced by more than 1.4 million by 2020**
- (*National Economic Research Associates, May 31, 2011*)



DETROIT NEWS: Stop EPA from Killing Coal: In Michigan, **DTE predicts the closure of four to five of its older coal plants, or about 20 percent of its capacity, and installing scrubbers on its coal plants will cost \$2 billion**, which will be passed on to consumers in higher monthly bills. (June 23, 2011)

MI - 10.3%



BLOOMBERG: San Antonio Coal Plant to be 1st in Texas to Close: A coal-fired power plant that has supplied electricity in San Antonio since the 1970s will be the first in Texas to shut down. **The move by San Antonio's community-owned gas and electric company, CPS Energy, comes as many coal-fired plants nationwide face the prospect of stringent federal regulations on mercury and other emissions.** (June 20, 2011)

TX - 8.0%



EVANSVILLE COURIER & PRESS: Kentucky Governor wants Federal Regulators off the Back of Coal: U.S. Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind., of Fort Wayne accused the White House last week of "allowing unelected bureaucrats to impose a narrow ideological agenda and declare war on coal." **Coats cited plans announced by American Electric Power to retire generating units at the Tanners Creek coal power plant in Lawrenceburg, Ind., because of a series of EPA regulations.** (June 11, 2011)

IN - 8.2%



IL - 8.9%

CHICAGO TRIBUNE: Consumers' Electric Bills Likely to Spike as Coal Plants Close: Pending environmental regulations will make coal-fired generating plants, which produce about half the nation's electricity, more expensive to operate. Many are expected to be shuttered. ***One example of the trend is Dominion Resources' recent announcement that by 2014 it will close State Line Power Station.*** (June 11, 2011)



WV - 8.6%

CHARLESTON GAZETTE: AEP says EPA rule would move up plant closings: American Electric Power said Thursday it may move up the closings of three aging coal-fired power stations in West Virginia if federal regulators finalize new rules aimed at reducing illnesses and deaths caused by plant emissions. "... ***the cumulative impacts of the EPA's current regulatory path have been vastly underestimated, particularly in Midwest states dependent on coal to fuel their economies,***" said Michael G. Morris, chairman of AEP. (June 3, 2011)



VA - 6.0%

ROANOKE TIMES: Appalachian Power's Glen Lyn Plant in Giles County Faces Shutdown: Across AEP's service area, about ***600 power plant jobs will be lost*** under the plan the company announced Thursday. And some regions that rely the most on coal, such as the Midwest, could see ***rates increase by up to 35 percent.*** (June 10, 2011)



MA - 7.6%

SALEM NEWS: Plant Closing: What's Next?: *The Virginia energy company that bought Salem Harbor Station six years ago announced yesterday that it will close part of the aging, coal- and oil-fired power plant by the end of the year* and shutter the entire facility in June 2014. ***The decision to close, a company spokesman said, was influenced by several factors, including federal environmental regulations slated to take effect in 2014*** and beyond that would have required Dominion to install costly pollution controls. (May 12, 2011)



TN - 9.7%

UPI: TVA Votes to Close Some Coal Plants: The Tennessee Valley Authority has voted to retire portions of coal-fired plants in three parts of the region, officials said. "***We realized we could not keep all our operating coal plants on online,***" TVA President and Chief Executive Officer Tom Kilgore said before the vote. ***Bringing them up to mandated environmental requirements would be extremely costly, he said.*** (April 14, 2011)



GA - 9.8%

ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION: Georgia Power to Shutter Two Coal Burners: *Georgia Power announced plans Wednesday to shutter two coal-fired power plant units in Middle Georgia, saying the cost of equipping them to meet current and pending environmental regulations is too high to justify their continued use.* (March 16, 2011)



NC - 9.7%

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER: Duke Considers Closing Old Coal Plants: *Duke Energy said it might close seven coal-fired units at its Carolinas power plants within five years as environmental regulations intensify.* Duke has already agreed to retire 800 megawatts of older coal units as part of an N.C. permit to build a new 825-megawatt unit under construction at the Cliffside plant in Rutherford County. That will shutter four old units at Cliffside, two at Buck, and three at Dan River and two at Riverbend. (September 2, 2010)



SC - 10.0%