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# News Release

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**FOR RELEASE: June 9, 2014**

## **Stakeholders group to meet on proposed carbon pollution reduction rule**

The Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC) and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) will hold a stakeholders' meeting on June 25 to explore options for complying with the newly proposed federal air rule regulating carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at ADEQ, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock.

On June 2, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its Clean Power Plan proposal, which for the first time regulates carbon pollution from existing power plants under section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act. EPA plans to finalize the rule by June 1, 2015. States must submit their implementation plans – which can include a mix of options including efficiency improvements at existing power plants, energy efficiency on the part of customers, renewable energy and more -- to EPA by June 30, 2016. In some cases, extensions may be allowed.

"The Arkansas Commission is pleased to work with the ADEQ on this effort," said APSC Chairman Colette D. Honorable. "We also look forward to engaging with a diverse group of stakeholders who will aid in evaluating this proposed rule." "We also appreciate the recognition by EPA of the diversity of resources at the state level, and the flexibility to create our own solutions."

Representatives from the following groups, selected by Honorable and ADEQ Director Teresa Marks, will serve as stakeholders:

1. Entergy Arkansas, Inc.
2. Southwestern Electric Power Company
3. Oklahoma Gas & Electric
4. Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas
5. Plum Point Energy Associates
6. Union Power Station- Entegra Power Group, LLC
7. North Little Rock Electric
8. Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.
9. Southwest Power Pool
10. CenterPoint Energy Arkansas Gas
11. Arkansas Advanced Energy Association
12. Arkansas Electric Energy Consumers
13. Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce
14. Arkansas Environmental Federation
15. Sierra Club
16. Audubon Arkansas

17. Arkansas Department of Health
18. Arkansas Attorney General's Office
19. Arkansas Energy Office
20. Arkansas Municipal League
21. Arkansas Public Policy Panel

The group will develop recommendations for Arkansas's statewide implementation plan.

The group is expected to meet every other month through June 2015 and possibly more frequently after that date.

Meetings will be announced through news releases and will be posted on APSC's website under the "Hot Topics" link. Information on the first stakeholders meeting, held on May 28, has been posted there as well.

More information, including a copy of the proposed rule, is also available on EPA's website at <http://www2.epa.gov/carbon-pollution-standards>.

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