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2014 APR -1 P 4:27

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2014

ENROLLED

House Bill No. 4346

(By Delegates Phillips, R., Caputo, Andes, Craig, Sumner, Pethtel, Marcum, Lynch, Tomblin, Eldridge and Barker)



Passed March 8, 2014

In effect ninety days from passage.

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H. B. 4346

(BY DELEGATES PHILLIPS, R., CAPUTO, ANDES, CRAIG, SUMNER, PETHTEL, MARCUM, LYNCH, TOMBLIN, ELDRIDGE AND BARKER) .

[Passed March 8, 2014; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §22-5-20, relating to the development of a state plan to reduce carbon pollution and greenhouse gas production under section 111 of the Clean Air Act; establishing separate standards of performance for carbon dioxide emissions from existing coal-fired electric generating units; establishing separate standards of performance for natural gas-fired electric generating units; and factors and considerations to be reflected in the developed state plan.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §22-5-20, to read as follows:

Ehr. H. B. No. 4346]

ARTICLE 5. AIR POLLUTION CONTROL.

§22-5-20. Regulating carbon dioxide emissions from existing fossil fuel-fired electric generating units.

a state (a) The Department of Environmental Protection, in 1 2 consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection 3 Advisory Council, shall establish separate standards of 4 performance for carbon dioxide emissions from existing coal-5 fired electric generating units in accordance with subsection (b) and from existing natural gas-fired electric generating units in 6 7 accordance with subsection (c). The standards of performance developed and proposed under any state plan to comply with 8 9 Section 111 of the Clean Air Act should allow for greater 10 flexibility and take into consideration the additional factors set forth in subsection (d) as a part of any state plan to achieve 11 12 targeted reductions in greenhouse gas emissions which are 13 equivalent or comparable to the goals and marks established by 14 federal guidelines.

(b) Standards of performance for existing coal-fired electric
generating units. — Except as provided under subsection (d), the
standard of performance established for existing coal-fired
electric generating units under subsection (a) shall be based
upon:

(1) The best system of emission reduction which, taking into
account the cost of achieving the reduction and any non-air
quality health and environmental impact and energy
requirements, has been adequately demonstrated for coal-fired
electric generating units that are subject to the standard of
performance;

26 (2) Reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide that can
27 reasonably be achieved through measures undertaken at each
28 coal-fired electric generating unit; and

29 (3) Efficiency and other measures that can be undertaken at
30 each coal-fired electric generating unit to reduce carbon dioxide

emissions from the unit without switching from coal to other
fuels or limiting the economic utilization of the unit; and

33 (4) Additional regulatory mechanisms that provide flexibility 34 in complying with the standards, including: (A) Emissions 35 trading with credited reduction for any unit that was in operation January 1, 2011, or thereafter, and fleet wide averaging; (B) 36 37 other alternative implementation measures that are determined 38 to further the interests of West Virginia and its citizens including 39 state programs such as clean energy programs that mandate 40 reduced energy consumption resulting in avoided emissions, 41 emission reductions, or a reduction in the state's carbon dioxide 42 intensity whereby the state shall credit equally based on the 43 output to the generators located in the state that are subject to 44 carbon dioxide performance standard rules under Section 111(d) 45 of the Clean Air Act.

46 (c) Standards of performance for existing natural gas-fired
47 electric generating units. — Except as provided in subsection
48 (d), the standard of performance established for existing gas49 fired electric generating units under subsection (a) shall be based
50 upon:

(1) The best system of emission reduction which, taking into account the cost of achieving the reduction and any non-air quality health and environmental impact and energy requirements, has been adequately demonstrated for natural gasfired electric generating units that are subject to the standard of performance;

57 (2) Reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide that can
58 reasonably be achieved through measures at each natural gas59 fired electric generating unit; and

60 (3) Efficiency and other measures that can be undertaken at 61 the unit to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the unit 62 without switching from natural gas to other lower-carbon fuels 63 or limiting the economic utilization of the unit. Enr. H. B. No. 4346]

64 (d) Flexibility in establishing standards of performance. — In developing a flexible state plan to achieve targeted reductions 65 in greenhouse gas emissions, the Department of Environmental 66 Protection shall endeavor to establish an achievable standard of 67 68 performance for any existing fossil fuel-fired electric generating 69 unit. and examine whether less stringent performance standards 70 or longer compliance schedules may be implemented or adopted 71 for existing fossil fuel-fired electric generating units in 72 comparison to the performance standards established for new, 73 modified or reconstructed generating units, based on the 74 following:

(1) Consumer impacts, including any disproportionate
impacts of energy price increases on lower income populations;

77 (2) Non-air quality health and environmental impacts;

78 (3) Projected energy requirements;

79 (4) Market-based considerations in achieving performance80 standards;

81 (5) The costs of achieving emission reductions due to factors
82 such as plant age, location or basic process design;

83 (6) Physical difficulties with or any apparent inability to
84 feasibly implement certain emission reduction measures;

85 (7) The absolute cost of applying the performance standard86 to the unit;

87 (8) The expected remaining useful life of the unit;

(9) The impacts of closing the unit, including economic
consequences such as expected job losses, if the unit is unable to
comply with the performance standard;

91 (10) Impacts on the reliability of the system; and

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92 (11) Any other factors specific to the unit that make
93 application of a modified or less stringent standard or a longer
94 compliance schedule more reasonable.

95 (e) State plan requirement. — The Department of 96 Environmental Protection shall propose or submit to the U. S. 97 Environmental Protection Agency a state plan which includes 98 achievable performance standards for existing sources, and a 99 combination of additional measures designed to meet the U. S. 100 Environmental Protection Agency's guidelines, consistent with 101 the considerations, goals and parameters set forth in this section. That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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