



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **A Resolution Concerning U.S. EPA's Proposed Greenhouse Gas Emission Guidelines for Existing Fossil-**
2 **Fueled Power Plants**

3 **Whereas**, on June 18, 2014, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published in the *Federal*
4 *Register* a proposal (“Clean Power Plan”) for reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from existing fossil-fueled
5 power plants; and

6 **Whereas**, EPA's proposed Clean Power Plan establishes interim and final CO₂ emission targets for power plants in
7 49 states to meet; and

8 **Whereas**, progress toward meeting the interim target is to commence by 2020 and the final target to be achieved by
9 2030; and

10 **Whereas**, states have achieved major progress in meeting federal, state, and local clean air goals over the past four
11 decades; and

12 **Whereas**, EPA and U.S. Energy Administration Agency data indicate that coal-fueled power plants have reduced
13 emissions of major air pollutants by approximately 90 percent per kilowatt-hour since 1970; and

14 **Whereas**, the electric power industry has invested an estimated \$118 billion in emission controls for coal-fueled
15 power plants through 2013, and plans to invest another \$27 billion through 2016 to deploy additional clean coal
16 technologies;

17 **Whereas**, EPA projects that its proposed Clean Power Plan will increase electricity prices by a nationwide average of
18 four percent to seven percent, will increase natural gas prices by nine percent to 12 percent, and will cause the
19 retirement of 46,000 megawatts to 49,000 megawatts of coal-fueled electric generating capacity; and

20 **Whereas**, these energy cost increases will be borne, in general, by consumers and energy-intensive industries; and

21 **Whereas**, these energy cost increases will be borne disproportionately by low-income and middle-income
22 households, whose real incomes have been declining for more than a decade according to data from the U.S. Bureau
23 of the Census; and

24 **Whereas**, it is essential to establish environmental policies that maintain stable, affordable, and reliable supplies of
25 electricity; and

26 **Whereas**, coal continues to be a reliable, low cost, and increasingly clean fuel source for electricity generation; and

27 **Now therefore be it resolved:**

28 That the NLGA continues to assert, and works to preserve, the rights and powers of the states, including the
29 sovereign right of each state to determine the appropriate mix of energy resources to meet its electricity needs; and

30 **Be it further resolved**, that EPA should adopt policies that do not conflict with the responsibility of each state to
31 provide affordable and reliable supplies of electricity for its citizens; and

32 **Be it further resolved**, that the timetable for implementing the Clean Power Plan should be delayed to allow
33 adequate time for planning and implementation without jeopardizing access to affordable and reliable electricity
34 supplies; and

35 **Be it further resolved**, that EPA's proposed Clean Power Plan should be modified in all necessary respects to
36 reflect this resolution.

Sponsors: Lt. Governors Peter Kinder (MO) and Jeff Kessler (WV); Additional co-sponsor(s) Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey (AL); Lt. Gov. Matt Michels (SD); Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann (IN); Lt. Gov. Shan S. Tsutsui (HI); Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox (UT); Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne (LA); Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell (AK)