

Statement

On October 6, 2011, following the submission of additional data from states and companies and further review of the rule, EPA is proposing a routine rulemaking that will maintain the extensive public health benefits of the Cross State Air Pollution Rule while also making certain technical adjustments to account for the updated information the Agency recently received.

These adjustments, possible because of the inherent flexibility of the Clean Air Act, will increase CSAPR emission budgets in ten states and ease limits on market-based compliance options. While individual state adjustments vary, overall, the budget increases are slight – about one percent – when compared to the millions of tons of pollution reductions secured by CSAPR. Today's proposal will maintain the significant health benefits of the rule – saving up to 34,000 lives a year – while continuing CSAPR'S flexibility and certainty for utilities as we work together to ensure that we protect the air we all breathe and the jobs of American workers.

While the CSAPR trading programs begins in January 2012, companies have until the end of 2012 and early 2013 to demonstrate compliance. As with any proposal, this rulemaking will go through a public comment period to ensure important feedback from stakeholders will inform the final standard.