



June 29, 2023

Administrator Michael S. Regan
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Request for an Additional 45-Day Extension of Comment Deadline for New Source Performance Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; and Repeal of the Affordable Clean Energy Rule (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0072); 88 Fed. Reg. 33, 240 (May 23, 2023)

Dear Administrator Regan,

On May 23, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a proposed rule to limit greenhouse gas emissions from new and existing fossil fuel-fired electric generating units.¹ EPA originally provided a 60-day public comment period ending on July 24, 2023. On May 24, 2023, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and the American Public Power Association (APPA) (together the Associations) submitted a comment to the docket requesting a 60-day extension of the comment period.² On June 12, EPA notified the Associations that it had extended the comment deadline only 15 days, to August 8, 2023. The 15-day extension is inadequate, and the Associations respectfully request that the EPA extend the comment period by an additional 45 days – to September 22, 2023 – to ensure there is adequate time to fully evaluate and comment on the proposal and underlying technical supporting documents.

NRECA is the national trade association representing nearly 900 not-for-profit electric cooperatives that deliver power to 42 million people and serve 92 percent of the nation's persistent poverty counties. NRECA members include 63 generation and transmission (G&T) cooperatives and 832 distribution cooperatives. As not-for-profit, consumer-owned utilities, electric cooperatives are deeply concerned about maintaining affordable and reliable electric service for our members.

APPA is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the

¹ New Source Performance Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; and Repeal of the Affordable Clean Energy Rule, 88 FR 33240 (May 23, 2023).

² Comments submitted by National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and American Public Power Association (APPA) <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0072-0062>.

more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 96,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.

All the reasons presented in our joint letter of May 24 remain ample reasons for EPA to extend the comment period to September 22. Further, EPA received several requests from other organizations asking for a similar comment period extension, including the ISO/RTO Council, which asked for the additional time so its members could evaluate potential impacts on the reliability of the bulk electric power system and provide “constructive comments on the Proposed Rule.”³ In light of the numerous comments from stakeholders requesting a 60-day extension to the original comment period, EPA should reevaluate its decision to grant just 15 days.

The Associations appreciate EPA’s consideration of their request and look forward to a response. If you have questions about this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (703) 907-5861 or Ms. Carolyn Slaughter on behalf of APPA at (202) 467-2900.

Sincerely,



Dan Bosch
Regulatory Affairs Director
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association



Carolyn Slaughter
Senior Director, Environmental Policy
American Public Power Association

³ Letter from ISO/RTO Council to EPA, “ISO/RTO Council’s Request for Extension of Comment Period.” June 8, 2023. Available in rulemaking docket as document EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0072-0092.