

Union of Concerned Scientists

Existing Clean Energy Commitments Put Minnesota on Track to Meet or Exceed Clean Power Plan 2022 and 2030 Targets

The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) – a non-partisan, science-based non-profit – examined actions that states have already taken or plan to take to cut carbon emissions. We then analyzed how far these commitments take states toward achieving the EPA’s emission reduction benchmarks under the Clean Power Plan (CPP).

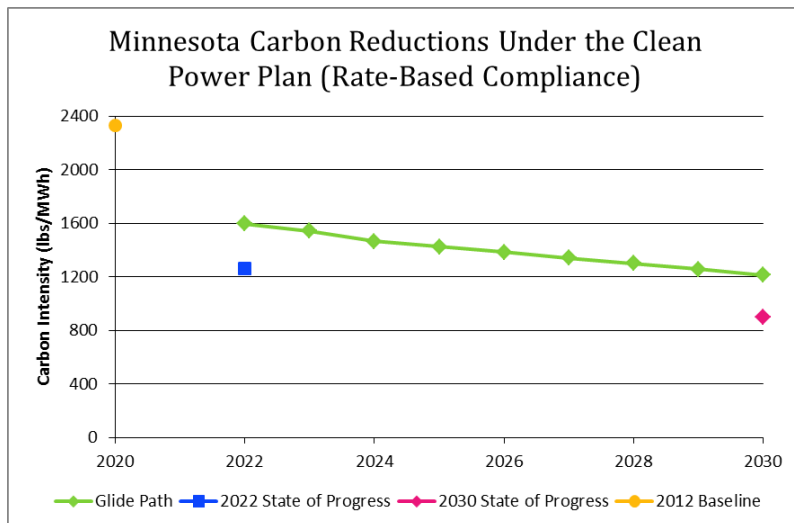
Using the EPA’s rate-based approach for setting emissions reduction targets, UCS’s States of Progress analysis shows:

- The CPP timeline and trajectory for emission cuts are achievable.
- 31 states are already on track to be more than halfway toward meeting their 2022 CPP benchmarks, with 21 states set to surpass it.
- 20 states are already on track to be more than halfway toward meeting their 2030 CPP target, with 16 states set to surpass their 2030 CPP targets.
- By prioritizing renewable energy and energy efficiency, and collaborating with their neighbors, states can reliably and cost-effectively meet their emissions reduction goals.

Minnesota Findings

Minnesota’s current commitments to clean energy – including its renewable energy and energy efficiency standards as well as announced coal plant retirements – will achieve more than 150% of its 2022 emissions reduction target, and more than 130% of its 2030 ultimate requirement under the CPP. Minnesota’s history of clean energy leadership has put it on a path to meet or exceed its carbon reduction targets. However, in order ensure that Minnesota meets these targets and continues to take advantage of opportunities presented by the CPP, the state must continue to prioritize clean energy and lock-in current and future coal retirements.

Minnesota’s Leadership Puts the State on a Trajectory to Exceed its CPP Requirements



Minnesota can continue to be a clean energy leader by:

- Pursuing a regional carbon trading program that allows states to work together to reduce emissions and position Minnesota as a clean energy exporter.
- Strengthening the state’s renewable electricity standard to 40% by 2030. A UCS analysis: *Advancing Minnesota’s Clean Energy Economy: Building on a History of Leadership and Success* (www.ucsusa.org/minnesotacleanenergy), found requiring utilities to generate 40% of their electricity from renewable resources by 2030 would drive more than \$6 billion in new capital investments and add less than 0.2% to consumers’ utility bills, or about 12 cents per month through 2030.
- Continue reducing the state’s reliance on aging, inefficient and dirty coal-fired power plants.

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Download the full analysis at: www.ucsusa.org/statesofprogress