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August 3, 2015

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Business & Energy Leaders' Statement on Release of Final EPA Clean Power Plan
Clean Energy Industries Praise Historic Action, Focus on Readily Available Technology Solutions

Washington, DC - The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) released the following statement from BCSE President Lisa Jacobson regarding the release of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) final Clean Power Plan regulating carbon emissions from existing power plants:

"Today marks a significant milestone on the path to cleaner, more efficient sources of power generation in America using affordable, readily-available technologies. EPA's release of the final rule to reduce carbon emissions from the power sector is a historic move that shows the United States is prepared to take meaningful steps to fight global climate change.

"EPA's Clean Power Plan provides the essential flexibility needed to ensure successful implementation of the standard. The Plan's flexibility will allow states to meet their targets with a broad portfolio of affordable and reliable technologies, including an array of energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy solutions. In addition, states should be allowed the use carbon capture utilization and storage (CCUS) and well as carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technologies for compliance if they have carbon utilization and sequestration capacity.

"The Clean Power Plan also offers a great opportunity for constructive partnership and dialogue between state policy-makers and the private sector, with clear opportunities to explore state-specific or multi-state options for compliance. The Business Council for Sustainable Energy and its members are committed to helping states adapt clean energy solutions to each state's unique requirements.

"If there is any doubt that the clean energy transformation is already taking place – take a look at the findings of this year's [Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#). The energy productivity of the U.S. has increased 11% from 2007-2014 as a result of an increase in energy efficiency. 93% of new power capacity built in the U.S. since 2000 has come from natural gas and renewable energy, and together these two sectors generated more than 40% of U.S. electricity in 2014.

"The Council looks forward to reviewing the final standards and sharing the views of clean energy industries with EPA and state policymakers."

BCSE member comments on the release of the final Clean Power Plan:

Jared Blum, President, Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association

"EPA's Clean Power Plan can provide the "tipping point" in coalescing this country's already strong technical

capacities to lower our carbon output. Our military, industrial, and scientific leaders have requested that our government provide an actionable path forward. The Clean Power Plan is one such path that deserves broad business support."

Kateri Callahan, President, Alliance to Save Energy

"Thanks to EPA, states will have a unique and important opportunity to strengthen local economies and create jobs even as they work to comply with new regulations under the Clean Power Plan. An [economic analysis](#) funded by the Alliance to Save Energy demonstrates that doubling U.S. energy productivity by 2030 — through deployment of energy efficiency policies, programs and investments — would not only reduce emissions below what is required under the new regulations, but also would save the U.S. \$327 billion annually and create 1.3 million net new jobs for our country."

Bob Cleaves, President & CEO, Biomass Power Association (BPA)

"Consistent with every State-based renewable energy initiative as well as the international community, the federal government has resoundingly recognized the role of biomass as a renewable energy source. We thank Administrator McCarthy and her team at EPA for their role in ensuring a strong future for biomass in the United States."

Tony Earley, Chairman & CEO, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)

"I congratulate the Administration on finalizing the Clean Power Plan rule and greatly appreciate the significant outreach and engagement with our sector. They took the time to understand that states and regions are in different starting places and have different opportunities for achieving emission reductions."

Thad Hill, CEO, Calpine

"The Clean Power Plan represents a commitment to continuing the transition from carbon intensive generation to efficient, low carbon intensive generation. This flexible, market-based solution will reward the companies that invest and have invested smartly in cleaner generation. We applaud the EPA for its efforts throughout this collaborative process and look forward to working with the agency, states, and other stakeholders as the rule is ultimately implemented."

Tom Kiernan, CEO, American Wind Energy Association (AWEA)

"American wind power can do this. Low-cost wind energy reduced carbon emissions by five percent in 2014, and we're capable of doing a lot more. We can build a more diverse, reliable, cleaner energy mix while creating jobs and keeping money in the pockets of American consumers."

Arlen Orchard, General Manager & CEO, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)

"SMUD supports federal action to reduce carbon emissions in the electricity sector while ensuring the reliability of the electricity grid. We have invested in a variety of renewable resources, along with efficient natural gas generation and hydro power, to significantly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions while continuing to provide affordable, reliable electricity to our customers. In concert with our considerable investments in energy efficiency, we've demonstrated our commitment to a low-carbon future. In the final Rule, we appreciate the EPA's recognition that early action should be encouraged and recognized. It's clear that EPA considered the constructive comments from stakeholders."

Rhone Resch, President & CEO, Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)

"The time has come to replace our aging, dirty energy infrastructure with clean, reliable 21st century energy technologies, like solar. Solar energy is the most sensible compliance option for states under the Clean Power Plan. Solar works in all 50 states, has zero carbon emissions, creates more jobs per megawatt (MW) than any other technology, and can be deployed cost-effectively and quickly - all while improving grid reliability. Today, solar energy is the fastest-growing source of energy in America. Under the Clean Power Plan, the solar industry will continue to expand production and lower costs to meet the increased demand from states, which means solid, well-paying jobs for hundreds of thousands of Americans."

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The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) is a coalition of companies and trade associations from the energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy sectors, and also includes independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public power and commercial end-users. Established in 1992, the Council advocates for policies that expand the use of commercially-available clean energy technologies, products and services. For more information on the Council, please visit: www.bcse.org and download [Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#) 2015 edition for the latest industry information.