

S 485

Clear Skies Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Feb 27, 2003

Current Status: Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Sa

Latest Action: Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety. Hearings held and concluded. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 108-347. (Jun 5, 2003)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/485

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]

Party: Republican • State: OK • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Voinovich, George V. [R-OH]	R · OH		Feb 27, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jun 5, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 999	Identical bill	Mar 17, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality.

Clear Skies Act of 2003 - Amends the acid deposition control provisions of the Clean Air Act with respect to emissions limitations and allowances programs for sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and mercury by: (1) revising the allowance system and associated transfer, tracking, permit, compliance plan, and penalty requirements, including those for auctions; and (2) establishing new emissions limitations and trading programs (including implementation of a separate sulfur dioxide scheme for States in the Western Regional Air Partnership).

Requires the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to: (1) promulgate performance standards (limiting emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and mercury) for new boilers, integrated gasification combined cycle plants, and combustion turbines; and (2) conduct a comprehensive research and environmental assessment program to enhance understanding of health and environmental effects of particulate matter and mercury and to demonstrate the efficacy of emission reductions under this Act.

Excludes the following units from consideration as major emitting facilities or major stationary sources (or parts thereof) for purposes of compliance with provisions concerning prevention of significant deterioration of air quality and plan requirements for nonattainment areas: (1) those that are subject to the performance standards of this Act; or (2) those with properly operated and maintained equipment to limit particulate matter emissions or subject to a permit under an applicable implementation plan that provides a specified particulate matter emissions limitation and that use good combustion practices to minimize carbon monoxide emissions.

Requires States to ensure in implementation plans that: (1) in an attainment or unclassifiable area, any emissions increase from the construction or modification of an affected unit will not result in exceeding a national ambient air quality standard; and (2) in a nonattainment area, the emissions increase will not interfere with a program to assure the achievement of such a standard. Provides for designation of transitional areas under implementation plans and states requirements for emissions inventories, the attainment of standards by the end of 2015, and penalties for not meeting the eight-hour ozone or fine particles standard.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 5, 2003:** Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety. Hearings held and concluded. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 108-347.
- **May 8, 2003:** Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety. Hearings held.
- **Apr 8, 2003:** Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety. Hearings held.
- **Feb 27, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 27, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S2943)
- **Feb 27, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (text of measure as introduced: CR S2943-2971)