

HR 1841

Acid Rain and Mercury Control Act

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Apr 1, 2009

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry. (Apr 28, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/1841>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McHugh, John M. [R-NY-23]

Party: Republican • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Maffei, Daniel B. [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Apr 21, 2009
Rep. Arcuri, Michael A. [D-NY-24]	D · NY		Apr 27, 2009
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-3]	R · NY		Apr 29, 2009
Rep. Massa, Eric J. J. [D-NY-29]	D · NY		Jun 19, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 28, 2009
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 2, 2009
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 1, 2009
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 6, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Acid Rain and Mercury Control Act - Amends the Clean Air Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to promulgate regulations to reduce specified amounts of aggregate sulfur dioxide emissions and nitrogen oxide emissions from power plants by January 1, 2012. Authorizes the regulations to include market-oriented mechanisms.

Requires the Administrator to coordinate with federal and state governments to increase energy efficiency, to increase the use of renewable energy, and to implement cost saving advanced demand and supply side policies.

Requires a power plant, by the later of the date that is 30 years after it commenced operation or the date that is five years after this Act's enactment, to comply with the specified new source performance standards and specified requirements applicable to modified sources under the Clean Air Act.

Considers affected units (coal-fired electric generating facilities that have a nameplate capacity greater than 25 megawatts and that generate electricity for sale) that commence operation after December 31, 2010, to be new units. Prohibits such units from exceeding the mercury emission limit of 0.6 pounds mercury per trillion Btu upon commencement of operation. Prohibits affected units that commence operation on or before December 31, 2010, from exceeding such limit by January 1, 2013.

Sets forth penalties for excess emissions. Requires the Administrator to ensure that mercury captured or recovered by emission controls installed at affected units is not re-released into the environment.

Prohibits owners or operators of electricity generating facilities from: (1) operating such facilities in noncompliance with the requirements of this Act; (2) failing to submit allowances or penalties or to provide and comply with any plan to offset excess emissions; and (3) emitting mercury in excess of the emission limitations.

Prohibits any person from holding, using, or transferring emission allowances allocated under such Act that are not in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Administrator.

Declares that nothing in this Act affects the ability of states to take actions to further limit sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, or mercury.

Directs the Administrator to promulgate regulations to protect specified sensitive ecosystems if the emissions reductions under title VII of the Clean Air Act are not sufficient to ensure the protection and restoration of such ecosystems.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 28, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry.
- **Apr 6, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment.
- **Apr 2, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment.
- **Apr 1, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 1, 2009:** Referred to House Energy and Commerce
- **Apr 1, 2009:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Science and Technology, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Apr 1, 2009:** Referred to House Natural Resources
- **Apr 1, 2009:** Referred to House Science and Technology
- **Apr 1, 2009:** Referred to House Agriculture