

S 1324

Affordable Reliable Electricity Now Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: May 13, 2015

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 283.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 283. (Oct 29, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1324>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]

Party: Republican • **State:** WV • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (35 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	R · TN		May 13, 2015
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		May 13, 2015
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		May 13, 2015
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		May 13, 2015
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		May 13, 2015
Sen. Coats, Daniel [R-IN]	R · IN		May 13, 2015
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		May 13, 2015
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		May 13, 2015
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		May 13, 2015
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		May 13, 2015
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		May 13, 2015
Sen. Enzi, Michael B. [R-WY]	R · WY		May 13, 2015
Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE]	R · NE		May 13, 2015
Sen. Hoeven, John [R-ND]	R · ND		May 13, 2015
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		May 13, 2015
Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]	R · GA		May 13, 2015
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		May 13, 2015
Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]	R · KY		May 13, 2015
Sen. Paul, Rand [R-KY]	R · KY		May 13, 2015
Sen. Perdue, David [R-GA]	R · GA		May 13, 2015
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		May 13, 2015
Sen. Roberts, Pat [R-KS]	R · KS		May 13, 2015
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		May 13, 2015
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		May 13, 2015
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		May 13, 2015
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		May 13, 2015
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		May 14, 2015
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	R · AL		May 18, 2015
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		May 19, 2015
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		May 19, 2015
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Jun 3, 2015
Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI]	R · WI		Jun 10, 2015
Sen. Scott, Tim [R-SC]	R · SC		Jun 23, 2015
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Jun 24, 2015
Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]	R · OK		Jul 8, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jun 23, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 2042	Related bill	Jul 14, 2016: Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 569.

Summary (as of Oct 29, 2015)

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary has been expanded because action occurred on the measure.)

Affordable Reliable Electricity Now Act of 2015

(Sec. 3) This bill requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to meet certain conditions prior to issuing, implementing, or enforcing a rule under the Clean Air Act that: (1) establishes a performance standard for greenhouse gas emissions from new, modified, or reconstructed fossil fuel-fired power plants (new power plants); and (2) addresses carbon dioxide emissions from existing fossil fuel-fired power plants (existing power plants).

In issuing those rules for new power plants, the EPA must: (1) place power plants fueled with coal and natural gas into separate categories, and (2) establish a separate subcategory for power plants using coal below a specified average heat content. The EPA must base greenhouse gas standards for new power plans on existing carbon capture and storage technology. Before the EPA can establish a greenhouse gas standard based on the best system of emission reduction for new power plants, the standard must first be achieved for at least one year at representative power plants throughout the country. The EPA may not use results obtained from demonstration projects when setting the standard.

(Sec. 4) In order to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants, the EPA must:

- report on the quantity of projected greenhouse gas emission reductions,
- assess the impacts of a rule to EPA's climate indicators, and
- issue state-specific model plans demonstrating how each state can meet the required greenhouse gas emission reductions.

States need not adopt or implement a state plan, or be subject to a federal plan, that addresses carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants if the plan would negatively affect: (1) economic growth, competitiveness, and jobs; (2) the reliability of its electricity system; or (3) electricity ratepayers by causing rate increases.

The bill extends the compliance dates of those rules for existing power plants pending final judicial review.

(Sec. 5) State noncompliance with any of those rules for new or existing power plants does not constitute a reason for imposing a highway project sanction.

(Sec. 6) The bill nullifies specified rules under the Clean Air Act concerning greenhouse gases from power plants.

(Sec. 7) The EPA may regulate an existing power plant for either hazardous air pollutants or non-hazardous pollution, but not both.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 29, 2015:** Committee on Environment and Public Works. Reported by Senator Inhofe without amendment. With written report No. 114-159. Minority views filed.
- **Oct 29, 2015:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 283.
- **Aug 5, 2015:** Committee on Environment and Public Works. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jun 23, 2015:** Committee on Environment and Public Works Senate Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 114-53.
- **May 13, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 13, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S3894)