

House Energy & Commerce Committee



Republicans

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Barton Alternative to Waxman-Markey Global Warming Bill

- **Performance Standard for Electric Generation**

- Rewards efficiency and is based on currently available technology
- It doesn't prevent the construction of new coal plants. Important because in the current environment it is nearly impossible to build coal-fired generation.
- Our standard would provide the necessary regulatory certainty to once again invest in coal-fired generation.
- Because our performance standard doesn't penalize the current fleet, it wouldn't cause the immediate rise in electricity prices which a cap-and-trade plan would.
- It reduces CO2 from electric generators by rewarding efficiency and new technology.
- All existing generating facilities are grandfathered.
- In order to receive an operating permit from the EPA, a new coal or pet coke plant must meet the following standards:

Calendar Year	Pounds CO2/MWH
2010 to 2014	2000
2015 to 2020	1800
2021 to 2029	1400
2030 and following	1100

- In order to receive an operating permit from the EPA, a new natural gas plant must meet the following standards:

Calendar Year	Pounds CO2/MWH
2010 to 2014	1100
2015 and following	800

- Plants which exceed these standards receive accelerated depreciation.
- Current plants receive accelerated depreciation on technology they install to improve their efficiency. Improving efficiency is an important method to reduce CO2. The

National Energy Technology Laboratory reported that improving the efficiency of all existing coal plants to match that of the top 10 percent of their online year group could reduce CO2 emissions by 250 million metric tons per year.

- This initially reflects currently available but cutting edge-technology. Unlike the Waxman-Markey provision, it gives the industry time to develop new technology.
- It ramps down anticipating technology which is currently being developed – the 1800 level is achievable with advanced turbines or other additional efficiency technology. The 1100 target can be met by adding partial sequestration to the mix.

- **Clean Energy Standard**

- Amends PURPA to establish a Federal Clean Energy Standard, an all-encompassing alternative to a renewable portfolio standard that includes nuclear, all hydropower, carbon capture and sequestration or conversion, combined heat and power, and other low-carbon technologies in addition to wind and solar.
- Instead of an alternative compliance cost, the governor of a state determines whether or not meeting the CES would raise electricity costs in his state. If the governor determines that it will, he informs DOE of this and informs DOE what percentage his state utilities could economically meet. DOE then sets the standard for utilities in that state at the level determined with the governor.

- **Nuclear Development**

- Significantly accelerated depreciation for new nuclear plants.
- Development of our nuclear resources includes research and commitment to nuclear recycling as well as opening Yucca Mountain.
- \$15 Billion for a recycling facility for nuclear waste. Takes Nuclear Waste Fund off-budget.

- **Carbon Capture and Storage/Sequestration**

- Continued R&D as well as commercial-scale pilot projects across the country. This includes funding for retrofitting existing plants.
- This encompasses the Boucher CCS bill to create a carbon capture and storage or conversion fund.

- **Transmission Expansion**

- The Waxman-Markey global warming bill does nothing for transmission.
- Amends Federal Power Act to create federal transmission siting authority to expand and modernize the grid.
- Supports the development of distributed generation to enable customers to cleanly and efficiently generate their own electricity.

- **Amends Clean Air Act to overturn Mass v. EPA**

- Amends definition of “air pollutant” to exclude carbon dioxide, water vapor, methane, nitrous oxide, HFCs, PFCs, or sulfur hexafluoride
- Nothing in CAA will authorize/require regulation of GHGs

- **Preempts State Authority**

- Preempts state authority to regulate certain fuels
- Preempts state authority to regulate all gases exempted from CAA regulation

- **Energy Efficiency**

- Repeals “decoupling” mandates that charge more money for less electricity.
- Increased funding to states for building inspectors to inspect building currently in place.
- Extends the tax credit for investments in solar, fuel cell and microturbine property; the tax credit for clean renewable energy bonds; and the tax credits for biodiesel and renewable diesel.
- Tax credits for energy efficient appliances and energy efficient upgrades to existing homes; tax credits for home energy audits and smart meters

- **Fuels**

- Renewable Fuel Standards rollback to avoid “blend wall” complications
- National Academy of Sciences study and review of fuel blends containing greater than 10 percent ethanol by volume
- Retiring Inefficient Vehicle Incentive Rebate program

- **Reforestation**

- Creating division within Volunteer Service Corps to focus on reforesting of urban brownfields and rural areas.