



INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURE AND TRADE POLICY

Shaping the Clean Power Plan as a Rural Opportunity

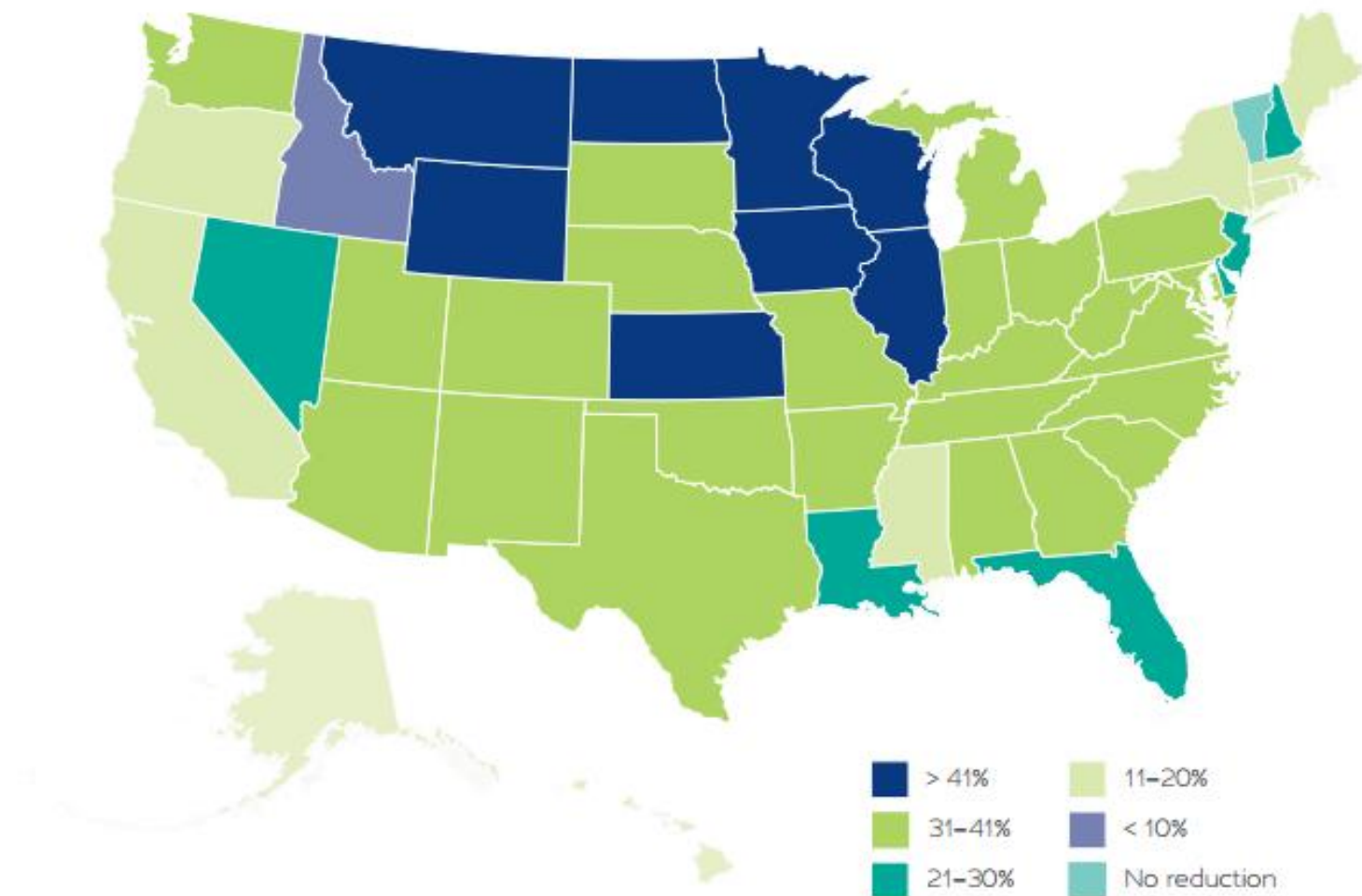
Tara Ritter

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The Clean Power Plan

- First regulation to limit carbon emissions from existing power plants
- Aims to reduce electricity sector emissions to 32% below 2005 levels by 2030
- “The Clean Power Plan: Opportunities for an Equitable Energy Transition in Rural America”
<http://www.iatp.org/documents/the-clean-power-plan>

Total Emission Reductions Percentage by 2030 Under the Clean Power Plan (from 2012 levels)



Source: National Conference of State Legislatures. <http://www.ncsl.org/research/energy/states-reactions-to-proposed-epa-greenhouse-gas-emissions-standards635333237.aspx>

Climate Change and Rural

- Rural communities produce our current energy supplies, and will continue to do so
 - Nearly three quarters of nation's land is rural
- Rural communities will be disproportionately impacted by climate change
 - Economy
 - Energy Costs
 - Transportation

Job Creation

- Clean Power Plan estimated to create a net gain of 96,000 jobs
 - Won't replace lost jobs one-for-one
- Job retraining and financial assistance needed
 - Some federal initiatives
 - States must innovate programs

Energy Costs

- Household electricity bills estimated to decrease \$8/month, on average, by 2030
 - Assumes energy efficiency improvements
- Rural areas have lower housing quality, lower energy efficiency, spend larger percentages of their incomes on energy on average

Clean Energy Incentive Program

- Matching funds for states that take early action on renewables and energy efficiency
- Projects fall in two categories:
 - Wind and solar projects done anywhere
 - Energy efficiency projects done in low income communities

Natural Resources

- Coal has provided critical economic opportunity, but comes with negative public health and natural resource impacts
- Extractive industries create enormous wealth; studies show that wealth often leaves the region
- A clean, renewable energy system can avoid the boom-and-bust cycle

Finding Solutions

- Dialogue is critical in rural communities and coal country
 - Rural Climate Dialogues in Minnesota
 - States should hold listening sessions in rural and coal dependent communities
- Participate in Clean Energy Incentive Program
- Create assistance programs to support communities impacted by the energy transition

Thank you!

Tara Ritter

Program Associate, Climate and Rural Communities

tritter@iatp.org

www.ruralclimatenetwork.org

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