

EPA'S \$8.4 BILLION "CLEAN" POWER PLAN

QUICK STATS

- ✘ **CONFERENCE:** Regulation
- ✘ **TEAM:** Environmental Protection Agency
- **FUMBLE:** \$8.4 billion regulation to re-engineer the U.S. energy policy
- **HOW TO RECOVER THE BALL:** Revoke this rule and develop all-of-the-above energy policies to support American jobs

With an astonishing \$8.4 billion price tag, EPA'S new Clean Power Plan (CPP) will drastically raise energy prices for American families and will place undue burdens on the economy.²⁶⁰ The CPP will force many states to shut down critical power plants without immediate replacement sources of energy for homes and businesses. This means higher costs for families to heat and cool their homes and higher electricity bills for everyone. The CPP claims it gives states the flexibility to meet the 32 percent carbon emissions reduction target. However, in reality many states simply cannot reduce their emissions by 1/3 without abruptly closing existing power plants.²⁶¹ In Texas Bloomberg Business reports family electricity bills will jump by as much as 16 percent by 2030, and the CPP will significantly increase the chance of blackouts.²⁶²

To make matters worse, CPP's devastating impact on the economy is not the rule's only major flaw. Preeminent constitutional scholar (and President Obama's former law professor) Laurence H. Tribe described the CPP as "unconstitutional" in a 2014 *Wall Street Journal* op-ed. Mr. Tribe argues the Clean Air Act

forbids EPA from regulating power plants for additional hazardous pollutants that are already regulated by EPA. He goes on to say that what the President could not achieve through the legislative process, he directed EPA to regulate "as though it has the legislative authority... to re-engineer the nation's electric generating system and power grid. It does not."²⁶³ EPA continues to make huge promises of future benefits, but the CPP will certainly increase the cost of every product that uses energy to produce.

RECOVERY

EPA should develop a true, all-of-the-above energy plan that focuses on job growth, affordability, reliability, and sustainability. The Administration is obsessed with killing all forms of carbon-based energy, but it fails to state what is next. Americans use electricity and energy for their homes, businesses, and transportation. Increasing the cost only hurts seniors and those on fixed incomes. Wealthy environmentalists can afford higher prices; most Americans cannot.

[For more information, please visit:](#)

[EPA: Clean Power Plan for Existing Power Plants](#)

[Bloomberg Business: Clean Power Plan to Shutter 4,000 MW of Texas Coal Output](#)

[The Wall Street Journal: The Clean Power Plan is Unconstitutional](#)

[Science Direct: Employment Trends in the U.S. Electricity Sector](#)