

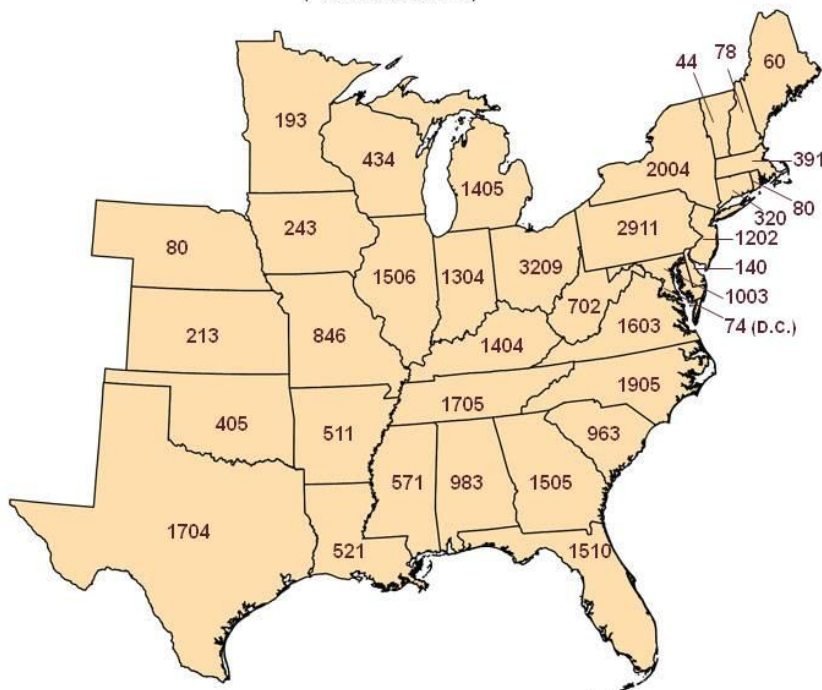
The Cross-State Air Pollution Rule

Health and Economic Benefits for America

To help states deal with pollution from outside their borders, EPA finalized the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule to reduce harmful emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxide (NO_x) from power plants in the eastern half of the U.S. The rule is being promulgated under the “Good Neighbor” provision of the Clean Air Act – a provision that ensures that harmful emissions from power plants in a particular state do not adversely impact air quality in downwind states. These protections will help downwind states meet national air quality standards that are already in place.

Under this rule, harmful pollution will be significantly reduced: SO₂ emissions from power plants in the eastern half of the U.S. would be reduced 73% and NO_x emissions would be reduced 54%. Nationally, this rule will save up to 34,000 lives, prevent 400,000 asthma attacks, and avoid 1.8 million lost work or sick days each year once in place. The economic value of these benefits is estimated at \$120–280 billion each year. These benefits don’t even account for the value of increased agricultural crop and commercial forest yields, improvements to visibility, and reduced nitrogen and acid deposition.

New Power Plant Emission Standards for Eastern States
Estimated Lives Saved Each Year Beginning in 2014
(PM 2.5 and Ozone)



Data Source: EPA, Regulatory Impact Analysis