

## RETIREMENT OF COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATING UNITS<sup>1</sup>

*As of November 6, 2016*

- ✦ Since 2010, utilities have announced the retirement of a very large number of coal-fired electric generating units.<sup>2</sup> In addition to retiring units, some coal-fired units are converting to natural gas, and a small number are converting to biomass or another fuel. Most of these retirements and conversions have been attributed to EPA policies, although other factors, such as low natural gas prices and market conditions, play some role too.<sup>3</sup>
- ✦ **Table 1** lists 37 states with coal retirements and conversions that have been attributed to EPA policies. These retirements and conversions total 445 units and represent 72,500 megawatts (MW) of electric generating capacity. Approximately 13,000 MW (one-fifth of the total) are converting to natural gas, biomass, or another fuel. By the end of 2016, almost 51,000 MW of coal-fired electric generating capacity will retire or convert to another fuel because of EPA policies.
- ✦ **Table 2** lists all announced coal retirements and conversions, regardless of cause, through 2030. (Table 2 includes the units in Table 1 plus additional retirements and conversions that have not been attributed to EPA policies.) Table 2 shows that 558 units — totaling nearly 93,000 MW — are slated for retirement or conversion. These units are located in 43 states and represent almost 30% of the U.S. coal fleet that existed in 2010. Approximately 14,000 MW (slightly less than one-fifth of the total) are converting to natural gas, biomass, or another fuel.
- ✦ By the end of 2016, approximately 60,000 MW of coal-fired generating capacity will have retired or converted due to all causes. Between 2017 and 2020, an additional 17,800 MW are expected to retire or convert.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This list of retirements and conversions is based primarily on public announcements by the owners of the coal units. We also use other information sources that are highly reliable. These retirements and conversions are not based on modeling projections. We do not include small (less than 25 MW) cogeneration units.

<sup>2</sup> In 2010, according to EIA, the U.S. coal-fired electric generating fleet was comprised of 1,396 electric generating units at 580 power plants for a total generating capacity of approximately 317,000 MW.

<sup>3</sup> EPA policies include EPA regulations, as well as settlement agreements resulting from EPA's New Source Review enforcement activities.

<sup>4</sup> 15,240 MW are slated to retire or convert after 2020.

**TABLE 1. Coal Units Retiring or Converting Because of EPA Policies<sup>5</sup>**

	<b>MW CLOSING OR CONVERTING</b>	<b>UNITS CLOSING OR CONVERTING</b>
1. Ohio	6,421	40
2. Indiana	5,549	31
3. Pennsylvania	5,548	30
4. Alabama	5,166	26
5. Michigan	4,075	31
6. Kentucky	3,471	16
7. Georgia	3,249	15
8. Illinois	3,076	14
9. North Carolina	2,783	20
10. West Virginia	2,740	18
11. Tennessee	2,659	17
12. Virginia	2,354	16
13. Minnesota	2,150	15
14. South Carolina	1,768	14
15. Missouri	1,738	17
16. Colorado	1,699	13
17. Arkansas	1,659	2
18. Florida	1,568	7
19. Iowa	1,564	28
20. Oklahoma	1,464	3
21. Massachusetts	1,408	6
22. Texas	1,399	3
23. New Mexico	1,375	5
24. Maryland	1,319	7
25. Wisconsin	1,287	16
26. Arizona	822	4
27. Mississippi	706	2
28. Nebraska	637	5
29. Oregon	585	1
30. Louisiana	575	1
31. Kansas	478	6
32. New York	475	3
33. Utah	272	5
34. New Jersey	268	2
35. Montana	154	1
36. Wyoming	49	4
37. South Dakota	22	1
<b>37 STATES</b>	<b>72,432 MW</b>	<b>445 UNITS</b>

<sup>5</sup> Most of the coal units listed in Table 1 are retiring; 77 units representing 12,940 MW are converting to natural gas, biomass, or another fuel.

**TABLE 2. Coal Units Retiring or Converting Regardless of Cause<sup>6</sup>**

	<b>MW CLOSING OR CONVERTING</b>	<b>UNITS CLOSING OR CONVERTING</b>
1. Ohio	8,583	53
2. Illinois	6,173	22
3. Indiana	5,989	36
4. Pennsylvania	5,737	33
5. Alabama	5,166	26
6. Michigan	4,500	39
7. North Carolina	4,288	33
8. Georgia	3,752	17
9. Kentucky	3,471	16
10. Virginia	2,836	21
11. West Virginia	2,740	18
12. Nevada	2,689	8
13. Tennessee	2,659	17
14. Minnesota	2,288	17
15. Utah	2,072	7
16. Florida	1,898	8
17. Iowa	1,832	32
18. South Carolina	1,768	14
19. Missouri	1,755	18
20. Colorado	1,699	13
21. Massachusetts	1,663	8
22. Arkansas	1,659	2
23. New York	1,588	13
24. New Jersey	1,543	6
25. Wisconsin	1,525	23
26. Oklahoma	1,464	3
27. Texas	1,399	3
28. Washington	1,376	2
29. New Mexico	1,375	5
30. Maryland	1,319	7
31. Arizona	822	4
32. Montana	768	3
33. Nebraska	757	6
34. Mississippi	706	2
35. Oregon	585	1
36. Louisiana	575	1
37. Connecticut	566	2
38. Kansas	478	6
39. Delaware	360	4
40. North Dakota	189	1
41. California	129	3
42. Wyoming	49	4
43. South Dakota	22	1
<b>43 STATES</b>	<b>92,812 MW</b>	<b>558 UNITS</b>

<sup>6</sup> Most of the coal units in Table 2 are retiring; 97 units representing 14,130 MW are converting to natural gas, biomass, or another fuel.