



RETIREMENT OF U.S. COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATING UNITS¹

Status as of January 17, 2018

Retirements

Since 2010, power plant owners have announced the either the retirement or conversion to other fuels of a large number of coal-fired electric generating units.² The table on the following page summarizes all publicly announced retirements through 2030. The table shows that 610 coal-fired generating units in 43 states — totaling almost 111,000 megawatts (MW) of generating capacity — have retired or announced plans to retire. (This represents the retirement of an additional 3,000 MW and 11 coal-fired generating units since the last ACCCE update in October.) These retirements comprise almost 35% of the U.S. coal fleet that operated in 2010. So far, approximately 69,000 MW of coal-fired generating capacity have retired. Between 2018 and 2020, an additional 21,000 MW are expected to retire, bringing total retirements to 90,000 MW by the end of 2020.

EPA-Attributed Retirements

The table also includes retirements that have been explicitly attributed, at least in part, to EPA regulations and policies. These EPA-caused retirements total 456 units and represent almost 76,000 MW of coal-fired electric generating capacity. Of the total, 56,000 MW have already retired.

ISO/RTO Retirements

Some 45,000 MW of coal-fired generating capacity in ISO/RTO regions have retired. An additional 14,500 MW in these regions are slated to retire over the period 2018 to 2020, of which 10,200 MW have been attributed to wholesale electricity market conditions. The regions with the most retirements from 2010 through 2020 are PJM (30,000 MW); MISO (14,000 MW), ERCOT (5,700 MW), and SPP (4,400 MW).

¹ These retirements and conversions are based primarily on public announcements by the owners of the coal units. We also use other information sources that are reliable. These retirements and conversions are *not* based on modeling projections. We do not include small (less than 25 MW) cogeneration units. Since most of these units are retiring, not converting to another fuel, we use the term “retirements” in this paper to characterize units that may be *either* retiring or converting.

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

	MW RETIRING	UNITS RETIRING
1. Ohio	11,491 ³ / 6,421 ⁴	58 / 40
2. Indiana	6,569 / 6,129	39 / 34
3. Pennsylvania	5,737 / 5,548	33 / 30
4. Texas	5,672 / 1,399	10 / 3
5. Illinois	5,663 / 3,076	21 / 14
6. Alabama	5,166 / 5,166	26 / 26
7. Florida	4,752 / 1,568	14 / 7
8. Michigan	4,656 / 4,075	40 / 31
9. North Carolina	4,615 / 2,783	37 / 20
10. Kentucky	4,168 / 3,743	20 / 18
11. Georgia	3,752 / 3,249	17 / 15
12. Arizona	3,482 / 3,482	8 / 8
13. Virginia	3,120 / 2,354	27 / 16
14. Wisconsin	2,928 / 1,287	27 / 16
15. West Virginia	2,740 / 2,740	18 / 18
16. Nevada	2,689 / 0	8 / 0
17. Tennessee	2,659 / 2,659	17 / 17
18. Colorado	2,405 / 1,699	16 / 13
19. Missouri	2,372 / 2,355	24 / 23
20. Minnesota	2,288 / 2,150	17 / 15
21. Montana	2,248 / 154	5 / 1
22. Utah	2,072 / 272	7 / 5
23. Oklahoma	1,954 / 1,954	4 / 4
24. Iowa	1,832 / 1,564	32 / 28
25. South Carolina	1,768 / 1,768	14 / 14
26. Massachusetts	1,663 / 1,408	8 / 6
27. Arkansas	1,659 / 1,659	2 / 2
28. New York	1,588 / 475	13 / 3
29. New Jersey	1,543 / 268	6 / 2
30. Washington	1,376 / 0	2 / 0
31. New Mexico	1,375 / 1,375	5 / 5
32. Nebraska	757 / 637	6 / 5
33. Mississippi	706 / 706	2 / 2
34. Oregon	585 / 585	1 / 1
35. Louisiana	575 / 575	1 / 1
36. Connecticut	566 / 0	2 / 0
37. Kansas	550 / 478	7 / 6
38. Delaware	360 / 0	4 / 0
39. Maryland	250 / 115	3 / 2
40. North Dakota	189 / 0	1 / 0
41. California	129 / 0	3 / 0
42. Wyoming	49 / 49	4 / 4
43. South Dakota	22 / 22	1 / 1
43 / 37 States	110,740 / 75,947 MW	610 / 456 Units

³ Total coal retirements.

⁴ Coal retirements attributed to EPA regulations and policies.