
A Lower Emissions Coal Fleet

- The nation's fleet of coal-fueled power plants is essential for maintaining a diverse portfolio of electricity resources; providing fuel security; assuring grid reliability and resilience; and producing affordable electricity, especially when other electricity sources are not reliable or are too expensive. America's Power will continue to engage with federal, state and local officials and with stakeholders to promote an understanding of the importance of the coal fleet.
- Owners of the coal fleet have invested almost \$90 billion in advanced emission control technologies over the past two decades. This investment has helped reduce emissions of traditional air pollutants by more than 90 percent per kilowatt-hour of electricity generated. These emission control technologies are largely the result of programs that supported research, development, demonstration and deployment of technologies that are in widespread use today.
- Although the nation's coal fleet emits only a small fraction (2 percent) of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, America's Power is aware of the desire to reduce worldwide carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other GHG emissions. We believe that a technology-based strategy is the most realistic way to reduce these emissions. To be successful, such a strategy must be based on sustained investments and must allow adequate time to develop and deploy those technologies.
- **Today**, CO₂ and other emissions can be reduced by improving the efficiency of the existing coal fleet. Therefore, public policies should facilitate efficiency improvements.
- **Near-term**, development and deployment of high-efficiency, low-emissions (HELE) technologies to generate electricity from coal can reduce CO₂ emissions by up to 30 percent, compared to the existing coal fleet. Also, HELE technologies can be exported to other countries. Thus, HELE technologies can provide a bridge to an even lower-emissions coal fleet in the U.S. and other countries.
- **Longer-term**, America's Power supports continued investment and supportive public policies to incentivize the development and deployment of carbon capture, utilization and sequestration (CCUS) technologies, as well as other innovative and transformational technologies. We will work with policy makers to assure sustained funding and supportive policies for these technologies.