



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAY 6 2015

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Norman C. Bay  
Chairman  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Chairman Bay:

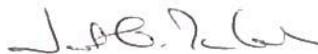
I am writing on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to express our appreciation for your efforts in conducting the four Technical Conferences on Reliability in connection with the EPA's Clean Power Plan proposal. My colleagues and I are especially grateful for being asked to participate in the Conferences and for the time that you and your fellow Commissioners have spent with me and my senior counsel, Joe Goffman, both before and since the Conferences.

As you and your fellow Commissioners and staff consider the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) potential path going forward, please keep in mind that the EPA, too, will remain intently focused on the issue of reliability both in our work to complete the final rule and during the implementation process that will follow. To that end, we recognize, as we emphasized in our presentations, that it is incumbent on us to craft a rule that provides sufficient time, flexibility and latitude for states, utilities and reliability entities to take the actions that they must take to ensure system reliability. In addition, commenters have provided us with a number of important suggestions for addressing reliability concerns directly through a variety of substantive and procedural mechanisms. We are reviewing these carefully and weighing several for possible inclusion in the final rule.

In our presentations at the Technical Conferences we emphasized our view that the period of time that might be most critical to ensuring reliability as related to the Clean Power Plan was the period during which states formulated the compliance plans, the EPA reviewed and approved them and sources undertook compliance. Accordingly, we are grateful that you have made your staff available to work with the staff of the U.S. Department of Energy and the EPA to plan now for coordinating activities of the three agencies that relate to reliability during the period following promulgation of the final rule. I believe that the success that the three agencies have enjoyed in the past three years in working together to engage the Independent System Operators (ISOs) and Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) with respect to the implementation of the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards provides a solid foundation for our work together going forward. As we have discussed, the three agencies' respective staff are developing a working document to guide these efforts once the final Clean Power Plan is promulgated. While my colleagues and I plan to continue to be in touch before and during interagency review of the final rule, please do not hesitate to contact me to continue our discussions.

Thank you for your consideration ongoing interest and engagement in this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. G. McCabe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "J." and last name "McCabe" clearly distinguishable.

Janet G. McCabe  
Acting Assistant Administrator

cc: Commissioner Tony Clark, FERC  
Commissioner Philip D. Moeller, FERC  
Commissioner Colette D. Honorable, FERC