The Clear Skies Act of 2003

Louisiana and Clear Skies

Highlights of Clear Skies in Louisiana

- **Louisiana sources would reduce emissions of SO_2 by 72%, NO_x by 74%, and mercury by 60% by 2020 due to Clear Skies.**

- **The health benefits in Louisiana would total $1.7 billion annually ($320 million under the alternative estimate) and include approximately 200 fewer premature deaths (100 under the alternative estimate) and 500 fewer hospitalizations/emergency room visits each year.**

- **In addition, Louisiana would receive environmental benefits including reduced sulfur and nitrogen deposition and visibility benefits valued at $31 million each year by 2020 for Louisiana residents who visit National Parks and Wilderness Areas nationwide.**

- **Clear Skies does not significantly impact electricity prices. With or without Clear Skies, electricity prices in the electric supply region that includes Louisiana are expected to remain below 2000 prices.**

Clear Skies: An Innovative Approach to Improving Human Health and the Environment

Why Clear Skies?

- **Air quality has improved, but serious concerns persist**
  - Louisiana's citizens suffer ill effects from air pollution, including asthma attacks and premature death
- **Electricity generation sector remains a major emissions source**
  - Very cost-effective to control the power sector, relative to other sources
  - Sources are concerned about upcoming complex and burdensome regulations

Advantages of the Clear Skies Approach

- **Guarantees significant nationwide emissions reductions – beginning years before full implementation**
  - Louisiana sources would substantially reduce emissions of SO_2, NO_x, and mercury
  - Delivers dramatic progress towards achievement of critical health and environmental goals
- **Uses proven, market-based flexible approach with incentives for innovation**
  - Recognizes environmental needs as well as industry constraints, allowing industry to better manage its operations and finances while lowering risks to the public
  - Sources are projected to install pollution controls to enable continued reliance on coal
- **Increases certainty across the board for industry, regulators, and consumers**

Under Current Clean Air Act Power Plants Would Face a Complex Set of Requirements

NSR Permits for new sources & modifications that increase emissions

Ozone

1-hr Serious Area Attainment Date

OTC NO_x Trading

NO_x SIPs Due

Designate areas for 8-hr Ozone NAAQS

NO_x SIP Call Red-uc-tions

1-hr Severe Area Attainment Date

Marg-inal 8-hr Ozone NAAQS Attain-ment Date

8-hr Ozone Attain-ment Demon-stration SIPs due

Assess Effectiveness of Regional Ozone Strategies

Possible Regional NO_x Reductions ? (SIP call II)[1]

Moderate 8-hr Ozone NAAQS Attainment Date

Serious 8-hr Ozone NAAQS attainment Date

99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

Mercury Determination

Proposed Utility MACT

Final Utility MACT

Compliance with Utility MACT

Compliance for BART Sources

Compliance for BART sources under the Trading Program

Phase II Acid Rain Compliance

Designate Areas for Fine PM NAAQS

New Fine PM NAAQS Implementation Plans

Latest attainment date for Fine PM NAAQS [3]

Second Regional Haze SIPs due

Interstate Transport Rule to Address SO_2/ NO_x Emissions for Fine PM NAAQS and Regional Haze

Regional Haze SIPs due

Acid Rain, $PM_{2.5}$, Haze, Toxics

Note: Dotted lines indicate a range of possible dates.

[1] Further action on ozone would be considered based on the 2007 assessment.

[2] The SIP-submittal and attainment dates are keyed off the date of designation; for example, if PM or ozone are designated in 2004, the first attainment date is 2009

EPA is required to update the new source performance standards (NSPS) for boilers and turbines every 8 years

In developing the timeline of current CAA requirements, it was necessary for EPA to make assumptions about rulemakings that have not been completed or, in some case, not even started. EPA's rulemakings will be conducted through the usual notice-and-comment process, and the conclusions may vary from these assumptions.

Clear Skies Sets a Firm Timeline for Emission Reductions

The existing Title IV SO_2 cap-and-trade program provides an incentive and a mechanism to begin reductions upon enactment of Clear Skies years before regulatory action under the current Act.

2004: The NOx SIP call (summertime NOx cap in 19 Eastern States + D.C.)

2004

2008: Clear Skies NOx Phase I (2.1 million ton annual cap assigned to two Zones with trading programs)

2008

2010: Clear Skies Hg Phase I (26 ton annual cap with a national trading program)

2010

2010: SO_2 Phase I (4.5 million ton annual cap with a national trading program)

2018: Clear Skies NOx Phase II (1.7 million ton annual cap assigned to two Zones with trading programs)

2018

2018: Clear Skies Hg Phase II (15 ton annual cap with a national trading program)

2018: Clear Skies SO_2 Phase II (3.0 million ton annual cap with a national trading program)

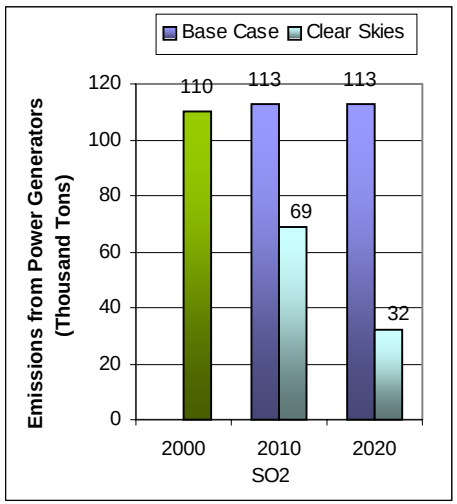
Emissions in Louisiana under Clear Skies

Emissions in Louisiana (2020) would be significantly reduced from 2000 levels:

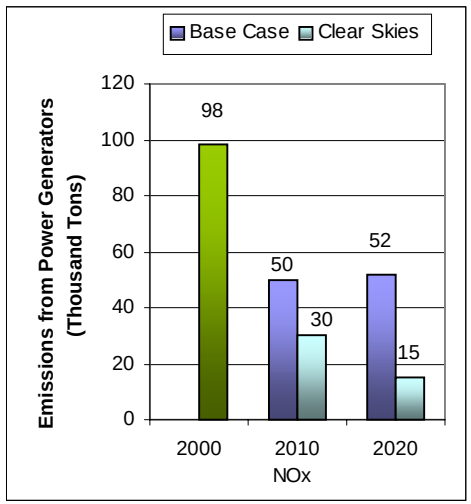
- 71% reduction in SO_2 emissions
- 85% reduction in NO_x emissions
- 42% reduction in mercury emissions

Emissions: Current (2000) and Existing Clean Air Act Regulations (base case*) vs. Clear Skies in Louisiana in 2010 and 2020

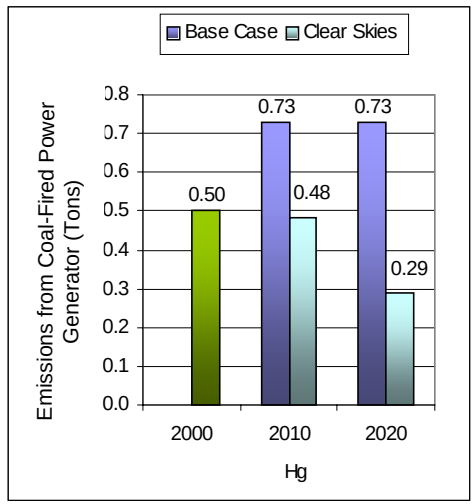
Sulfur dioxide



Nitrogen oxides



Mercury



Note: The base case using IPM includes Title IV, the NO_x SIP Call, NSR settlements, and state-specific caps in CT, MA, MO, NC, NH, TX, and WI. It does not include mercury MACT in 2007 or any other potential future regulations to implement the current ambient air quality standards or other parts of the Clean Air Act. Base case emissions in 2020 will likely be lower due to state and federal regulatory actions that have not yet been promulgated.

Clear Skies Health and Air Quality Benefits in Louisiana

Improve Public Health

- **Reduced ozone and fine particle exposure** by 2020 would result in public health benefits of:
  - approximately 200 fewer premature deaths each year[1]
  - approximately 100 fewer cases of chronic bronchitis each year
  - approximately 300 fewer non-fatal heart attacks each year
  - approximately 500 fewer hospital and emergency room visits each year
  - approximately 23,000 fewer days workers are out sick due to respiratory symptoms each year
  - approximately 4,800 fewer school absences each year
- **Reduced mercury emissions** would reduce exposure to mercury through consumption of contaminated fish, resulting in additional, unquantified benefits to those who eat fish from Louisiana's lakes, streams, and coastal waters.

By 2020, Louisiana would receive approximately $1.7 billion in annual health benefits from reductions in fine particle and ozone concentrations alone due to Clear Skies.[1]

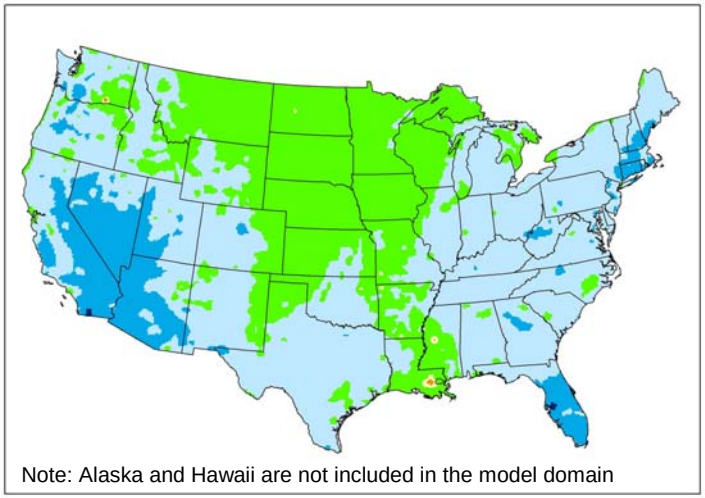
Help Maintain Health-Based Air Quality Standards[2]

- All Louisiana parishes currently meet the fine particle standard; Ten parishes currently exceed the 8-hour ozone standard.
- All ten parishes (population approximately 1.5 million) that exceed the ozone standard are expected to come into attainment by 2010 under existing programs.
- Clear Skies would further reduce concentrations of ozone and fine particles throughout Louisiana.

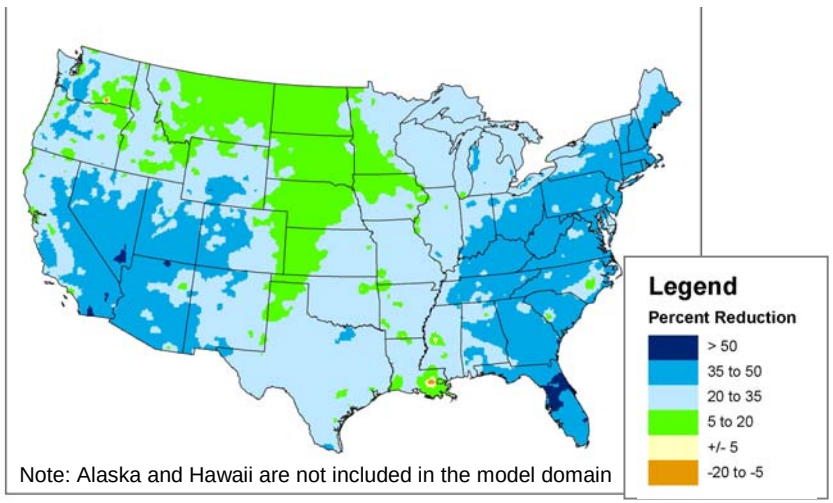
1. An alternative methodology for calculating health-related benefits projects approximately 100 premature deaths prevented and $320 million in health benefits each year in Louisiana by 2020.
2. Based on 1999-2001 data of counties with monitors that have three years of complete data.

Clear Skies Environmental Benefits in Louisiana

Projected Changes in Nitrogen Deposition in Louisiana with the Base Case in 2020 Compared to 2001



Projected Changes in Nitrogen Deposition in Louisiana with Clear Skies and the Base Case in 2020 Compared to 2001



Clear Skies Would Provide Substantial Environmental Benefits in Louisiana

In comparison to existing programs,

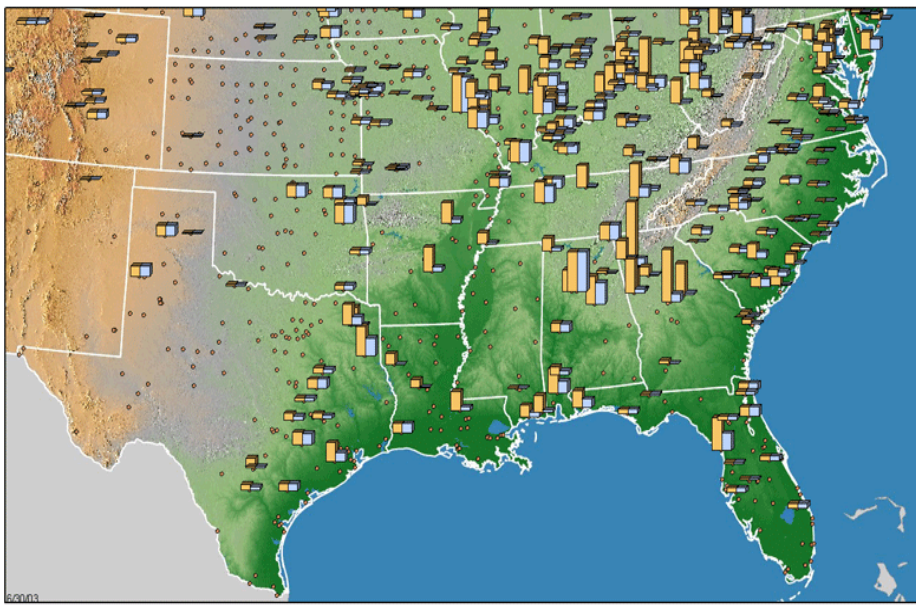
- **Visibility would improve perceptibly** in northern Louisiana.
  - **The value of improved visibility for Louisiana residents** who visit National Parks and Wilderness areas throughout the country would be $31 million each year by 2020.
- **Oxidized nitrogen deposition, a cause of damage to nitrogen-sensitive coastal waters, including the Gulf of Mexico hypoxia zone, would decrease** by up to 20% throughout most of the state.*
- **Sulfur deposition, a primary cause of acid rain, would decrease** by 15-30% in northern Louisiana and by up to 15% throughout much of the remaining portions of the state.
- **Mercury deposition would decrease** by up to 5% across much of the state and up to 15% in some areas.**

***** The increases in nitrogen deposition in Louisiana occur under both the Base Case and Clear Skies and are the result of increases in emissions from manufacturing and refining sources.

** These results are based on modeling the Clear Skies mercury cap without triggering the safety valve.

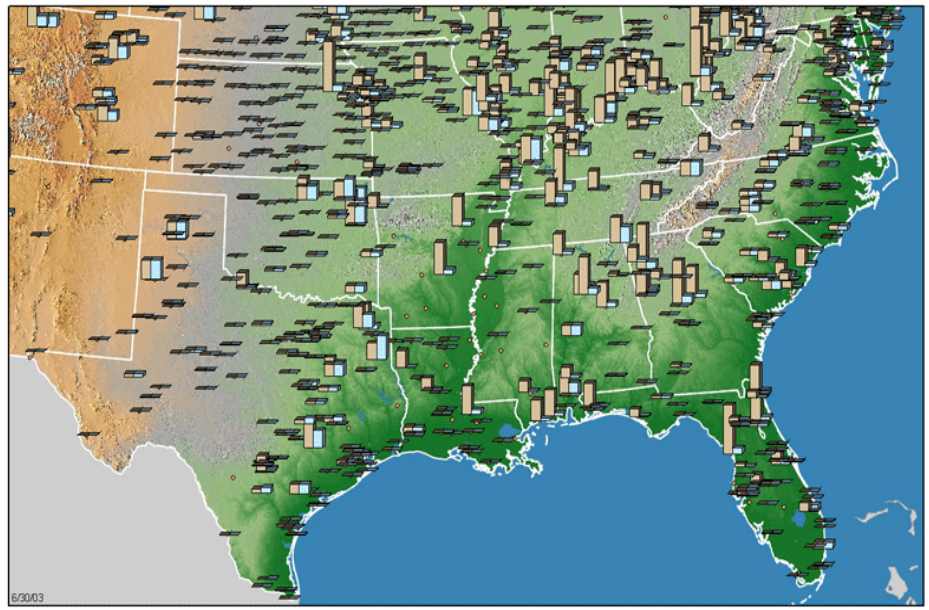
SO_2 and NO_x Emissions Reductions under Clear Skies

Emissions in Louisiana and surrounding states would decrease considerably. These emission reductions would make it much easier for Louisiana to maintain compliance with the national air quality standards.



Projected SO_2 Emissions from Power Plants with the Base Case and Clear Skies (2020)
South

- 75,000 tons
- Base Case Power Plant SO_2
- Clear Skies Power Plant SO_2
- Fossil Power Plants with Negligible SO_2 Emissions



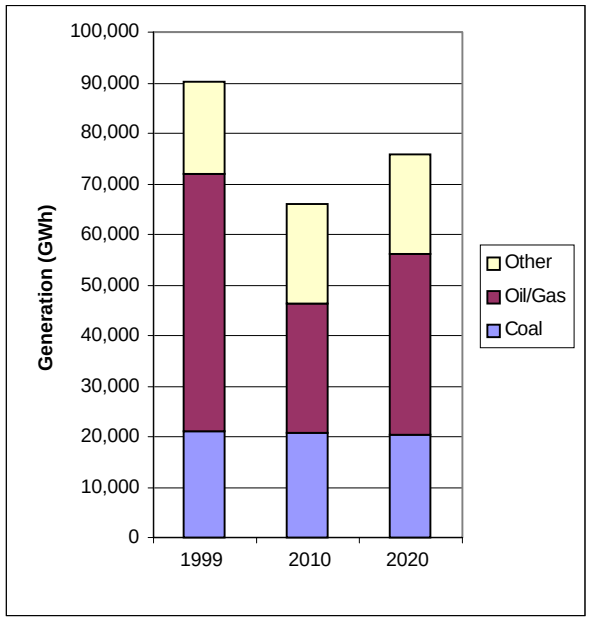
Projected NO_x Emissions from Power Plants with the Base Case and Clear Skies (2020)
South

- 22,000 tons
- Base Case Power Plant NO_x
- Clear Skies Power Plant NO_x
- Fossil Power Plants with Negligible NO_x Emissions

Note: The base case in IPM includes Title IV, the NO_x SIP Call, NSR settlements, and state-specific caps in CT, MA, MO, NC, NH, TX, and WI. It does not include mercury MACT in 2007 or any other potential future regulations to implement the current ambient air quality standards or other parts of the Clean Air Act. Base case emissions in 2020 will likely be lower due to state and federal regulatory actions that have not yet been promulgated. Emissions projected for new units in 2020 are not reflected.

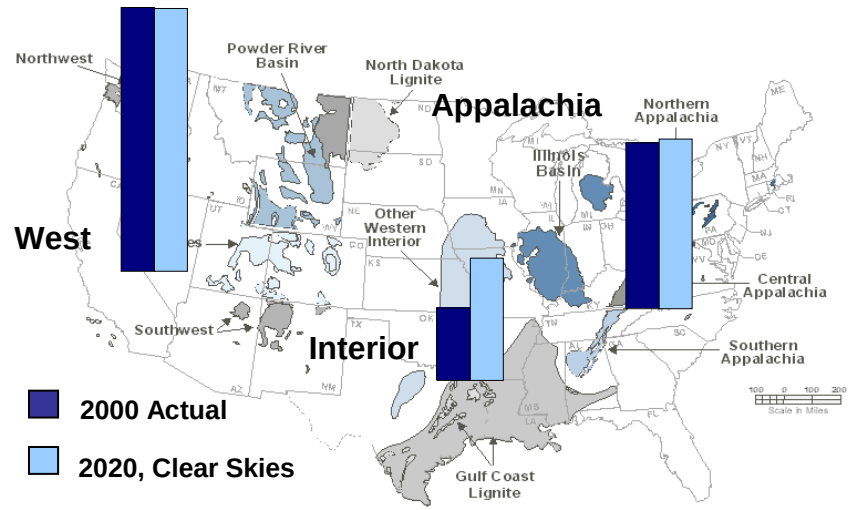
Electricity Generation in Louisiana under Clear Skies

Current and Projected Generation by Fuel Type in Louisiana under Clear Skies (GWh)



- **Louisiana's sources are projected to reduce their emissions through the installation of emission controls, rather than from a switch from coal to natural gas.**
  - In 2010, 18% of Louisiana's coal-fired generation is projected to come from units with advanced SO_2 and/or NO_x control equipment that also substantially reduce mercury emissions; in 2020, the percentage is projected to increase to 80%.

Current and Projected Coal Production for Electricity Generation



Scale: Appalachia 2000 = 299 million tons

Emission Controls in Louisiana under Clear Skies

- **Under Clear Skies by 2020...**
  - 80% of coal-fired capacity would install SCR
  - 80% would install scrubbers

- **The major generation companies in Louisiana include:**
  - Entergy
  - Cleco Power, LLC
  - Duke Energy
  - Louisiana Energy & Power Authority
  - Southwestern Electric Power Co.

- **Total coal-fired capacity in Louisiana is projected to be 2,792 MW in 2010.**

Units in Louisiana Projected to Be Retrofitted Due to Clear Skies by 2020

Plant Name	Unit ID	Technology
BIG CAJUN 2	2B1	Scrubber/ SCR
BIG CAJUN 2	2B2	Scrubber/ SCR
BIG CAJUN 2	2B3	Scrubber/ SCR
RODEMACHER	2	Scrubber*/ SCR*

* Retrofit was installed under Clear Skies by 2010

Notes:

[1] Retrofits and total coal-fired capacity apply to coal units greater than 25 MW.

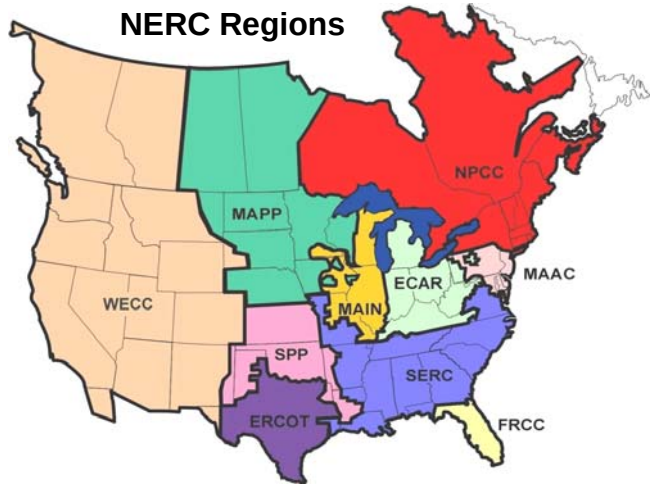
[2] Dolet Hills unit 1 is projected to be removed from operation by 2005 with Clear Skies due to excess gas-fired capacity in the marketplace, unless otherwise needed for voltage purposes or owner decides to receive by rail rather than minemout. The recent overbuild of gas-fired generation reduces the need for less efficient units operating at lower capacity factors. This unit is inefficient compared to other coal-fired plants and newer gas-fired generation. Less conservative assumptions regarding natural gas prices or electricity demand would create a greater incentive to keep this unit operational.

Electricity Prices in Louisiana under Clear Skies

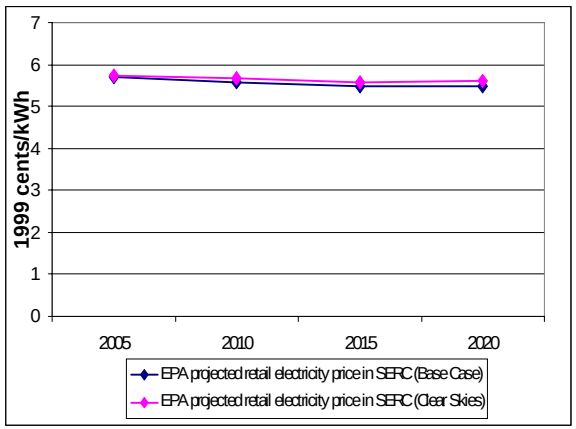
- **With or without Clear Skies, retail prices in the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) SERC region (the electricity supply region that contains Louisiana) are projected to increase between 2005 and 2020.**

- **With Clear Skies, retail prices are projected to be approximately 0.7 – 2.8% higher between 2005 and 2020 than in the absence of the legislation.**

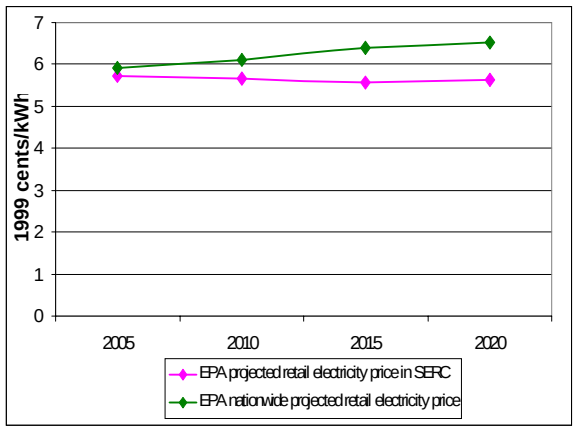
NERC Regions



Projected Retail Electricity Prices in Louisiana under the Base Case and Clear Skies (2005-2020)



Projected National Retail Electricity Prices and Prices in Louisiana under Clear Skies (2005-2020)



In 2000, the average retail electricity price in Louisiana was approximately 6.6 cents/kWh, which was below the average *national* retail price of approximately 6.7 cents/kWh.

Note: The base case using IPM includes Title IV, the NO_x SIP Call, NSR settlements, and state-specific caps in CT, MA, MO, NC, NH, TX, and WI. It does not include mercury MACT in 2007 or any other potential future regulations to implement the current ambient air quality standards or other parts of the Clean Air Act. Base case emissions in 2020 will likely be lower due to state and federal regulatory actions that have not yet been promulgated.

Costs and Benefits in Louisiana under Clear Skies

Benefits Outweigh the Costs

- **In Louisiana, Clear Skies is projected to cost approximately $32 million annually by 2020 while providing health benefits totaling approximately $1.7 billion annually.**

- **The increases in production costs under Clear Skies represent only a small percentage of total retail electricity sales revenue in Louisiana**.
  - Retail electricity sales revenue in Louisiana was almost $5.3 billion in 2000.
  - Adjusting these sales revenues by the same growth rate used for the modeling of costs would result in revenues of almost $8.2 billion annually in 2020.

- **Nationwide, the projected annual costs of Clear Skies (in $1999) are $4.3 billion in 2010 and $6.3 billion in 2020; the nationwide benefits of Clear Skies are expected to be over $113 billion annually by 2020.**
  - An alternate estimate projects annual health benefits totaling $23 billion.

Clear Skies….

- **Guarantees significant emissions reductions – beginning years before full implementation**
- **Uses a proven and flexible market-based approach with incentives for innovation**
- **Increases certainty across the board for industry, regulators, and consumers**

Note: Costs include capital costs, fuel, and other operation and maintenance costs (both fixed and variable) associated with the achievement of the emissions caps in the legislation (for example, the installation and operation of pollution controls). These state-level production costs are estimates; they do not account for the costs associated with the transfer of electricity across regions, nor the costs or savings that could be associated with allowance movement between sources.

Notes on EPA's Analysis

- The information presented in this analysis reflects EPA's modeling of the Clear Skies Act of 2003.
  - EPA has updated this information to reflect modifications:
    - Changes included in the Clear Skies Act of 2003.
    - Revisions to the Base Case to reflect newly promulgated rules at the state and federal level since the initial analysis was undertaken.
  - The Clear Skies modeling results presented include the safety valve feature
- This analysis compares new programs to a Base Case (Existing Control Programs), which is typical when calculating costs and benefits of Agency rulemakings.
  - The Base Case reflects implementation of current control programs only:
    - Does not include yet-to-be developed regulations such as those to implement the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
  - The EPA Base Case for power sector modeling includes:
    - Title IV, the NO_x SIP Call, NSR settlements, and state-specific caps in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Texas, and Wisconsin finalized before March 2003.
  - For air quality modeling, the Base Case also includes federal and state control programs, as well as the Tier II, Heavy Duty Diesel, and Non-Road Diesel rules.

- **For more information regarding the Clear Skies Act, please visit the EPA website:**

(http://www.epa.gov/clearskies)

CLEAR SKIES
Better Health, Brighter Future