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From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 7:51:10 PM
Subject: White House reviewing proposal to consider Clean Power Plan replacement

By Emily Holden

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The White House is reviewing EPA's advance proposal to consider a replacement to the Obama administration's climate standards for power plants, according to a notice that the Office of Management and Budget received the document Tuesday.

EPA officially proposed to revoke the Clean Power Plan Tuesday. On a call with conservative interests, administration officials said a proposal about a replacement could be issued in the next few weeks, as POLITICO reported.

The agency argued in moving to withdraw the regulation that Obama's EPA illegally set requirements that would have required companies to shift away from coal-fired power plants and use more natural gas and renewable power for electricity. EPA argued it only has authority to regulate coal plants directly.

Officials on the call also suggested the agency is considering letting states set their own standards for coal plants.

The document OMB received is called "State Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing Electric Utility Generating Units."

Any replacement rule would likely require coal plants to run more efficiently but is not expected to significantly reduce power-sector carbon dioxide emissions that cause climate change.

EPA has said it has not yet decided whether to pursue a replacement, although a Supreme Court ruling and endangerment finding written by the agency require it to address greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. Some conservatives want Administrator Scott Pruitt to fight that endangerment finding.

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