

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
Sent: Thur 5/25/2017 10:22:24 PM
Subject: EPA moves to suspend compliance for coal plant discharges rule

By Annie Snider

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EPA is proposing to suspend compliance dates for an Obama administration regulation limiting toxic discharges from coal-fired power plants while the Trump administration decides how to proceed with the underlying regulation.

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt today signed a proposed regulation that would suspend the date by which some facilities would have to implement two aspects of the rule, which limits waterborne pollutants like arsenic and lead. Under the final 2015 rule, compliance requirements for those aspects would kick in Nov. 1, 2018.

Pruitt's new proposed rule would postpone those requirements "until EPA promulgates a final rule specifying compliance dates."

EPA moved in April to reconsider the rule, known as effluent limitation guidelines, following industry requests. A federal court has also put pending litigation on hold amid EPA's review. Environmental groups are suing over EPA's decision to indefinitely suspend the rule.

"This proposed rule is one of nearly two dozen significant regulatory reform actions I have taken during my short time as EPA Administrator to protect the environment, jobs and affordable, reliable energy. Today's action, if finalized, will provide relief from the deadlines under the existing ELG Rule while we carefully consider the next steps for this regulation," Pruitt said in a statement.

WHAT'S NEXT: EPA is setting a 30-day public comment period on the proposed rule to suspend compliance dates, which would begin once the rule is published in the Federal Register.

To view online:

<https://www.politicopro.com/energy/whiteboard/2017/05/epa-moves-to-suspend-compliance-for-coal-plant-discharges-rule-088334>

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