

Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President
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U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support H.R. 2042, the Ratepayer Protection Act of 2015, introduced by Rep. Ed Whitfield (R-KY).

Over the last decade, U.S. manufacturers have lowered their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by more than 10 percent. The industry is a leading force for a more environmentally sustainable future through the creation and implementation of products that produce less waste, greater energy efficiency and lower GHG emissions.

Last year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a rule to regulate GHG emissions from existing power plants under section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA). This rule has the potential to substantially increase the costs of electricity for manufacturers and could threaten the reliability of the electric grid in many parts of the country. Manufacturers depend on affordable and reliable electricity to remain competitive in a global marketplace. Implementing the EPA's proposed GHG rule will hurt domestic manufacturers' competitiveness, threatening growth and the livelihood of manufacturing employees.

H.R. 2042 would provide manufacturers with greater regulatory certainty by extending the compliance dates of EPA's rule until after the judicial review process concludes. It would also create a safety valve for manufacturers in states where the impacts could be severe, and the threats to international competitiveness are particularly high, by allowing a state's governor to decline to implement the rule if doing so would adversely impact ratepayers or reliability.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on H.R. 2042, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 114th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse