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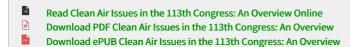
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# **CLEAN AIR ISSUES IN THE 113TH CONGRESS: AN OVERVIEW**



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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*\*. Oversight of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulatory actions was the main focus of interest as the 113th Congress considered air quality issues. Of particular interest were EPA s proposed regulations on the emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) from power plants. Reducing GHG emissions to address climate change is a major goal of President Obama, but Congress has been less enthusiastic about it. In the absence of congressional action, the President has directed EPA to promulgate GHG standards using existing authority under the Clean Air Act. This authority has been upheld on at least three occasions by the Supreme Court, but it remains controversial in Congress. EPA s most recent GHG actions have involved fossil-fueled (coal, oil, and natural gas) power plants, which EPA refers to as electric generating units (EGUs). On June 18, 2014, the agency proposed GHG emission standards for existing EGUs. These plants are the source of one-third of the nation s GHG emissions, so it is difficult to envision a regulatory scheme that reduces the nation s GHG emissions without addressing their contribution. At the same time, affordable and reliable electric power is central to the nation s economy and to the health and well-being of the population. Thus, the effects of the proposed rule on the electric power system are of considerable interest. Even before proposal of the existing power plant standards, the House had passed legislation (H.R. 3826) that would effectively have prohibited EPA from promulgating or implementing power plant GHG emission standards. On September 18, 2014, the House passed the same language a second time, in H.R. 2. The Senate did not consider either bill. Although it has not finalized the power...



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