



**Unanimously Adopted on September 26, 2016**

Resolution sponsored by: Representative Randy Davis, Alabama

## **4.2016 | Resolution Concerning the Combined Impacts of Future EPA Regulations for Coal-Fired Power Plants**

**WHEREAS**, the United States is blessed with abundant energy resources; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in our Nation's interest to have a diverse and balanced energy mix that takes full advantage of all of our energy resources; and

**WHEREAS**, a reliable and affordable electricity supply is vital to economic growth, energy security, jobs, and the overall interests of our Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, a diverse and balanced electricity mix includes coal, natural gas, nuclear power, and renewable energy; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2005, coal-fired power plants were responsible for generating 50 percent of U.S. electricity; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015, coal-fired power plants were responsible for generating 33 percent of U.S. electricity; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) issued new energy projections on May 17; and

**WHEREAS**, EIA projects that, by 2040, only 18 percent of U.S. electricity will be generated by coal-fired power plants; and

**WHEREAS**, more U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations could be imposed on coal-fired power plants; and

**WHEREAS**, these EPA regulations include new ambient air quality standards for ozone, fine particles and sulfur dioxide; new rules addressing interstate transport of air pollutants; ongoing regional haze requirements; requirements for coal combustion residuals; and effluent limitation guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, future EPA regulations are likely to cause even less fuel diversity, higher electricity prices, the retirement of more coal-fired electric generating units, further reductions in the use of coal to produce electricity, and more harm to states that rely on coal for jobs and for reliable and affordably priced electricity; and

**WHEREAS**, the SSEB is concerned about how EPA measures the costs and benefits of new regulation and how the EPA considers the combined potential impacts of multiple and simultaneous regulations.



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**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Southern States Energy Board urges EPA to analyze the combined potential impacts of its future regulations for coal-fired power plants and to share such analysis with all states; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that EPA minimize such impacts on the Nation and each state as it develops each individual regulation in furtherance of its statutory mission to protect human health and the environment; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, if EPA does not analyze the combined potential impacts of its future regulations for coal-fired power plants, the United States Congress should take all necessary steps to ensure that EPA analyzes the combined potential impacts of such future regulations on the U.S. electricity sector, jobs, energy prices, individual states, and regions of the country and shares such analysis with all states.