



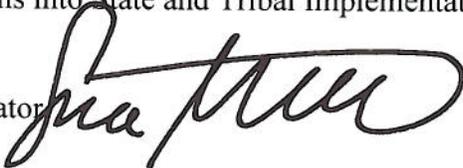
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 2 2012

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Manual for Incorporating Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy Policies and Programs into State and Tribal Implementation Plans

FROM: Gina McCarthy
Assistant Administrator 

TO: Regional Administrators
Regions 1 – 10

We are today releasing a manual that will help state, tribal and local air quality planners incorporate emission reductions from energy efficiency and renewable energy programs and policies into their State and Tribal Implementation Plans. Many states are enacting energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy (RE) policies to meet energy independence goals and this manual will help them take credit in their Clean Air Act plans for the co-benefit of reducing air pollution. Along with the manual, my staff will be providing training, additional data, and tools for quantifying emission reductions for your staff and our state colleagues. The manual and associated information are available at <http://www.epa.gov/airquality/eere.html>.

Now is a great time to account for EE/RE strategies in SIPs and TIPs. First, over the past five to ten years, states have substantially increased their commitment to EE/RE policies and programs. Recent reports show states have increased their investments in electric EE programs to over \$5 billion of electricity ratepayer funding, 29 states (and Washington, D.C.) have adopted renewable portfolio standards (RPS), and seven additional states have voluntary RPS goals. The increased state commitment to EE/RE strategies provides an emission reduction opportunity for air quality planners because these investments yield air quality benefits. Second, the air quality co-benefits of EE/RE policies and programs will also help communities meet and maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Finally, we know more about how to quantify air quality impacts of EE/RE strategies and are better positioned to evaluate and account for the potential emissions reductions benefits of those strategies for SIP/TIP purposes. This manual details the latest techniques and tools.

We designed the manual to be accessible to a range of audiences, featuring a main body combined with detailed appendices. It is intended to be a “living” document and we will update it as we gain new insights through our outreach efforts.

Regional offices have played and continue to play a valuable role in bringing information about the air quality benefits of EE/RE programs to the states and tribes. We will be reaching out to your staff to learn what else Regions need to help states and tribes successfully incorporate EE/RE policies and programs into SIPs/TIPs. We are committed to developing tools and sharing information to support your outreach to state, tribal and local agencies.

Please share the link to the manual with your state, tribal and local agencies. In addition, we would appreciate your assistance in updating interested members of the regulated community and the public about the document and website.

As a companion to the manual, we have developed, 1) online training modules on the electric energy system (including EE/RE), 2) a tool for quantifying the emissions benefits of EE, and 3) energy savings information for existing state EE/RE policies. We plan to work with the Regions to host a webinar describing the contents of the manual, offer hands-on training on the emission quantification tools, and respond to any questions that arise.

The manual and associated materials have been developed by a cross office team that included staff from the Office of Air and Radiation and Regions 1 and 6. The manual also reflects input received from a number of stakeholders.

For questions, please contact me or your staff can contact Chris Stoneman of the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-0823 or Robyn DeYoung of the Office of Atmospheric Programs at (202) 343-9080.

Attachment

cc: Air Division Directors