

**Additional Information provided by Office of Atmospheric Programs
September 24, 2015**

It would be helpful to know if the agency conducted analyses or has (or could it develop) future plans to:

- Conduct periodic retrospective analyses of historical IPM performance?

The agency has been using evolving platforms of the Integrated Planning Model (IPM) over the last two decades as part of a suite of analytical decision making tools. Informed with institutional knowledge, stakeholder feedback, and our staff's own experience bringing expertise from various fields, we have developed an ongoing and streamlined approach for regularly improving the IPM platform. Each version includes a variety of improvements to incorporate: 1) what has been learned from the past/previous modeling applications; 2) routine updates, including data inputs to reflect the power sector fleet specifics and associated cost and performance characteristics as accurately and currently as possible; 3) updates to reflect fuel resource availability and financial assumptions; and 4) updates to enable us model to evolving policy approaches. Therefore, each new IPM platform benefits from the outcomes of the previous modeling applications.

- Conduct periodic comparative analyses of results from IPM and other EGU projection tools?

EPA and DOE/Energy Information Administration modelers, analysts and engineers regularly compare and discuss input assumptions and output projections of our models to inform evaluation of results. In addition, we have ongoing technical engagement with the Eastern Regional Technical Advisory Committee (ERTAC), which has developed an EGU emissions projection tool using a combination of inputs from historical EPA emissions data and other parameters from DOE's Annual Energy Outlook projections. Engagement with ERTAC includes comparisons of input specifications and other modeling assumptions and projection methodologies. EPA also supports and actively participates in Stanford University's ongoing Energy Modeling Forum (EMF), which compares the structure, assumptions, data inputs and results of a broad set of state-of-the-art energy-economic models.

- Work toward adoption or development of more transparent, open-source EGU projection tools?

EPA openly and regularly engages with our stakeholders to obtain feedback regarding the current version of our IPM platform and to inform further development of our power sector projection tools. We routinely publish full documentation, input assumptions and output files for each modeling platform and set of analytic scenarios on our website (<http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/powersectormodeling.html>). By providing our data and modeling products publicly and transparently, we have made our IPM platform into a community resource, informed by expert input from a broad array of stakeholders, that has also fostered creative development of complementary analytic tools (e.g., the ERTAC emissions projection tool).