

## Questioning EPA's proposed regulations

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Regarding the EPA's proposed carbon emission standards and the recent exchange of letters to the editor by state senators John Brendan (Sept. 27) and Dick Barrett (Oct. 3), we are compelled to note that even if we take the "science" of global warming as established fact, the EPA's new rules, according to the EPA itself, will do nothing to arrest climate change or protect the environment.

We refer to the EPA's own response to comments made about the rule. "The EPA does not anticipate that this proposed rule will result in notable CO2 emission changes.. ." The EPA continues, claiming, "the owners of newly built electric generating units will likely choose technologies that meet these standards even in the absence of this rule due to existing economic condition. . ."

Is the EPA really saying that because the economy is still not healthy, electric power generators will install expensive emission controls, even in the absence of a requirement to do so? Apparently so. But what is even more remarkable is that the EPA appears to be saying that even if we accept the theoretical underpinnings of its proposed rule, i.e., that climate change is real and CO2 emissions contribute to global warming, this rule does nothing (or very little) to address the problem. The proposed rule will not result in "notable CO2 emission changes."

Why, we ask, is the EPA imposing expensive administrative rules that will increase the cost of power and drive the price of electricity upwards? Moreover, in reply to Sen. Barrett, why should our elected officials pro-actively support an expensive and strict regime of carbon capture that will, according to the EPA itself, have "no notable effect?"

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