

Resolution Number 01-2
Approved February 27, 2001
Clearwater, Florida

As certified by
Robert E. Roberts
Executive Director

ON MULTI-POLLUTANT STRATEGIES FOR THE CONTROL OF AIR POLLUTION

WHEREAS, many sources of air pollution, including power plants, emit more than one pollutant subject to regulation under the Clean Air Act and under state laws;

WHEREAS, States and their citizens are concerned about electrical reliability, energy supply, and energy prices;

WHEREAS, the traditional approach to regulation of pollutants has proceeded independently for each pollutant in determining the level of regulation, the type of control requirements, and the timing of such regulatory requirements;

WHEREAS, the traditional approach to the regulation of these pollution sources may lead to control strategy decisions that might vary significantly in cost, efficiency, and type;

WHEREAS, a multi-pollutant strategy is defined as the coordinated consideration of multiple regulatory decisions for sources of environmental pollutants;

WHEREAS, a well-designed multi-pollutant strategy has the potential to improve the ability of the sources to control environmental pollutants in a manner that facilitates efficiency, competitiveness, and cost savings while significantly reducing environmental impacts;

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to protect and preserve the environment, while promoting more effective planning and rational, flexible regulation of sources and to limit the economic burden of environmental regulation wherever possible;

WHEREAS, the current concerns that have arisen with respect to electric reliability, energy supply, and energy prices increase the need of the States and their citizens to have the regulation of the power generation industry proceed in a manner that is as cost-effective and non-disruptive as possible;

WHEREAS, several States have adopted or are in the process of adopting multi-pollutant strategies for the power generation industry, some of which consider the simultaneous regulation of multiple pollutants;

WHEREAS, this coordinated approach could lead to greater environmental gains than would be achieved under the existing provisions of the Clean Air Act and could create greater opportunities for pollution prevention and sustainability.

WHEREAS, there are a number of bills before Congress and some proposals being developed that would establish multi-pollutant strategies for the regulation of pollutants from the power generation industry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Environmental Council of States (ECOS) requests that EPA and Congress support research and incentives to allow the use of innovative multi-pollutant strategies for the control of air pollution under the federal Clean Air Act.

ECOS requests EPA to work with States to develop a cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally protective approach to implementing a multi-pollutant strategy for the regulation of the power industry.

In pursuing a multi-pollutant strategy, Congress, EPA and the States should proceed in a manner that protects the public health and environment, promotes efficient expenditure of resources, provides adequate and reliable energy, is scientifically sound and technically feasible and minimizes government impediments to the achievement of these goals.

Copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of EPA, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the President of the United States, and the United States Congress.