Impact of Mercury Regulations on Pennsylvania Coal-Fired Powerplants



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EVA/MCH 2005 Study



- Identified mercury removal performance of existing powerplant controls
- Projected cost and performance of likely 2010 commercial mercury control options
- Identified 2010 compliance strategies and cost for two scenarios-
 - CAMR Phase 2 emission cap (1,404 lbs: Pennsylvania) with in-state trading
 - 90% Incremental reduction (vs. 1999 rate) or technology forcing limitation

Mercury Removal from Existing Emission Control Configurations- Bituminous Coal



Source: January 3, 2005 Consensus Response by Utility Air Regulatory Group

Pennsylvania Powerplant Mercury Emissions-2010



EPA Mercury Rule sets 2010 state cap at 3,560 lbs, 2018 cap at 1,404 lbs



1. Many options. An overview of power plant mercury (Hg) control options. Source: EPRI

Bituminous Coal Mercury Control Options



- Activated Carbon Injection (ACI)
 - Existing ESPs
 - ACI with Small ESP (<250 SCA) based upon Yates powerplant demonstration test: 30-40% increased removal capped at 60% total reduction even with high carbon injection (>12 lb/Macf)
 - ACI with large ESP (>250 SCA) based upon Pleasant Prairie demonstration: 60% reduction
 - Assume that 35% of ash will no longer be sold and must be landfilled @\$28/ton



3. Activated carbon injection (ACI). In ACI field tests at sites with large electrostatio precipitators, mercury (Hg) removal efficiencies varied from 90% at a unit firing low-sulfur eastern bituminous coal to 60 to 70% at units firing PRB coal and North Dakota lignite. *Source: EPRI*



Bituminous Coal Mercury Control Options

- Activated Carbon Injection (ACI)
 COHPAC/TOXECON
 - Performance based upon demonstration at Gaston: 86% with ACI rate of 1.5 lbs/Macf
 - Requires new capital investment for a polishing fabric filter
 - Some promising approaches under development- more R&D needed
 - New halogenated sorbents



Pennsylvania Mercury Removal Costs



Pennsylvania Powerplant Mercury Emissions-2010



EPA 2003 TRI data PA powerplant emissions of 6,827 lbs EPA Mercury Rule sets 2010 state cap at 3,560 lbs, 2018 cap at 1,404 lbs

2010 Pennsylvania Compliance Strategies



Pennsylvania Highest Marginal Mercury Removal Cost



Pennsylvania Highest % Removal Requirement to reach 15 Ton Emission Cap (2010 Baseline)



Study Findings



- Unable to achieve Phase 2 CAMR cap with existing mercury control measures alone
- \$1.0 Billion in capital investment in mercury-specific controls
- \$180 Million/year in annual compliance costs
- Places 330-1,200 MW of coal-fired capacity at risk for accelerated retirement
 - Would trigger additional investment of \$200-\$750 million to replace lost capacity
 - Replace 1.8-6.1 TWh of lost generation with higher cost replacement power
- Setting stricter target earlier forces reliance on early mercury control technology