

# Clean Power Plan Final Rule and State Plan Options

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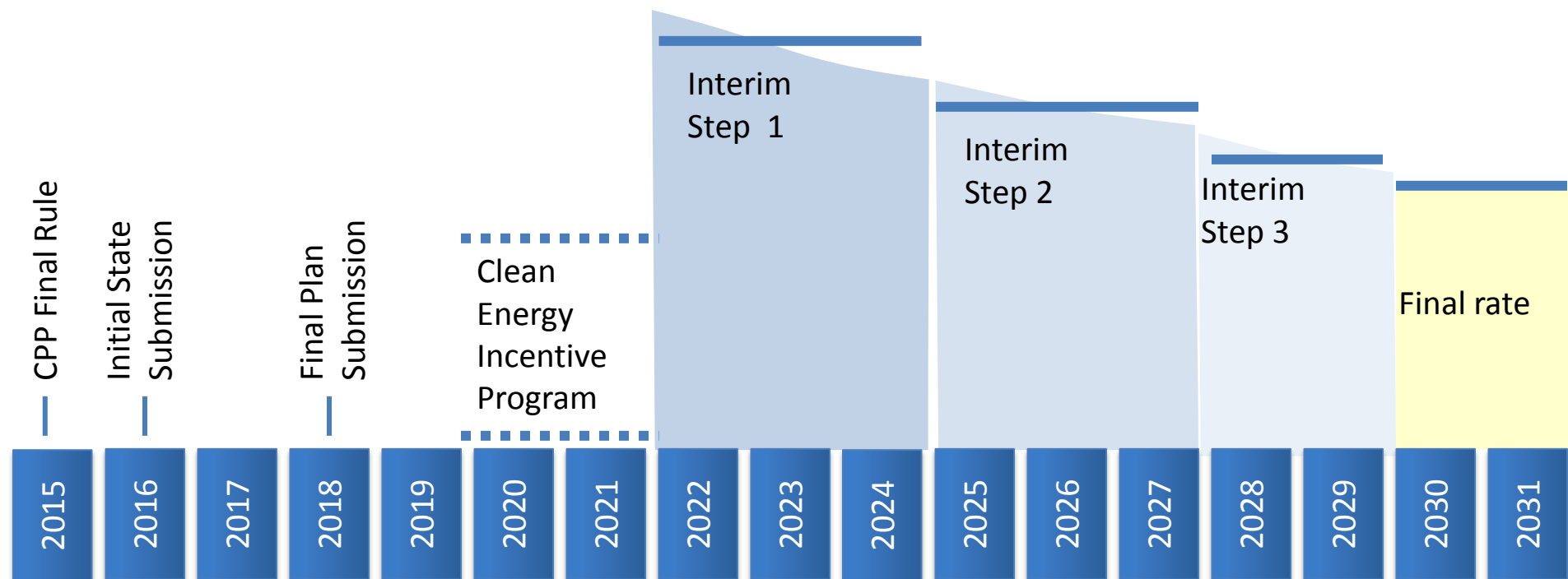
Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions  
Duke University

The US EPA Clean Power Plan GA EPD Stakeholder Meeting  
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# Key Takeaways & Major Changes

- Change in compliance timeline, interim begins 2022
- BSER building blocks applied to interconnections to create category specific performance rates for fossil steam units and NGCC
- EPA also provides alternative blended state rate, mass-based limits for affected EGUs and affected EGUs + new
- Rates and mass limits have changed
- Modified compliance options, embrace of trading-ready
  - Mass-based plans must address risk of leakage
  - New rate-based compliance instrument: ERCs

# CPP Compliance Timeline



- EPA is encouraging early action in 2020-2021
- Interim compliance period pushed back 2 years to 2022
- Three interim steps
- Two year compliance periods for final goal

# BSER Building Blocks

BB1: Heat rate improvements at existing coal units

- Eastern 4.3%, Western 2.1%, ERCOT 2.3%

BB2: Substituting NGCC generation for higher emitting fossil steam (mostly coal) generation

BB3: Incremental renewable energy to displace fossil generation

No nuclear or energy efficiency in building blocks; they *can* be used for compliance

# Category Specific Emission Performance Rates

BSER applied on interconnection basis

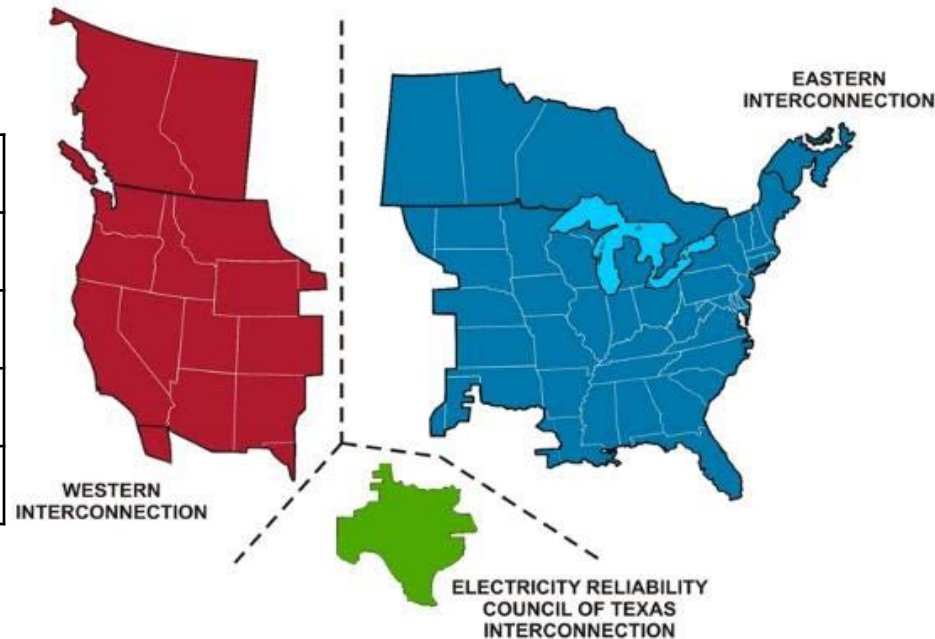
→ Select least stringent

2030 Final rate	Fossil steam	NGCC
	lbs/MWh	lbs/MWh
Eastern	<b>1305</b>	<b>771</b>
Western	<i>360</i>	<i>690</i>
ERCOT	<i>237</i>	<i>697</i>

- Same across states

Alternative blended rate

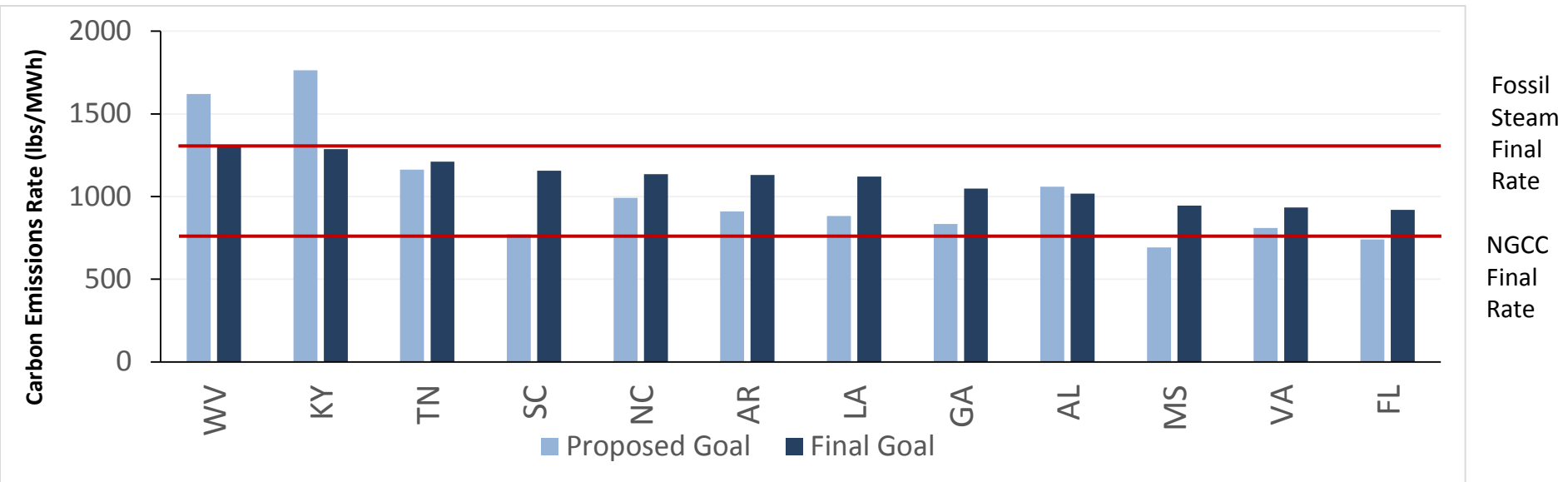
- Based on generation mix
- No longer using state/region specific assumptions about emissions reduction



Source: [https://www.e-education.psu.edu/drupal6/files/geog469/images/NERC\\_Interconnection\\_1A.jpg](https://www.e-education.psu.edu/drupal6/files/geog469/images/NERC_Interconnection_1A.jpg)

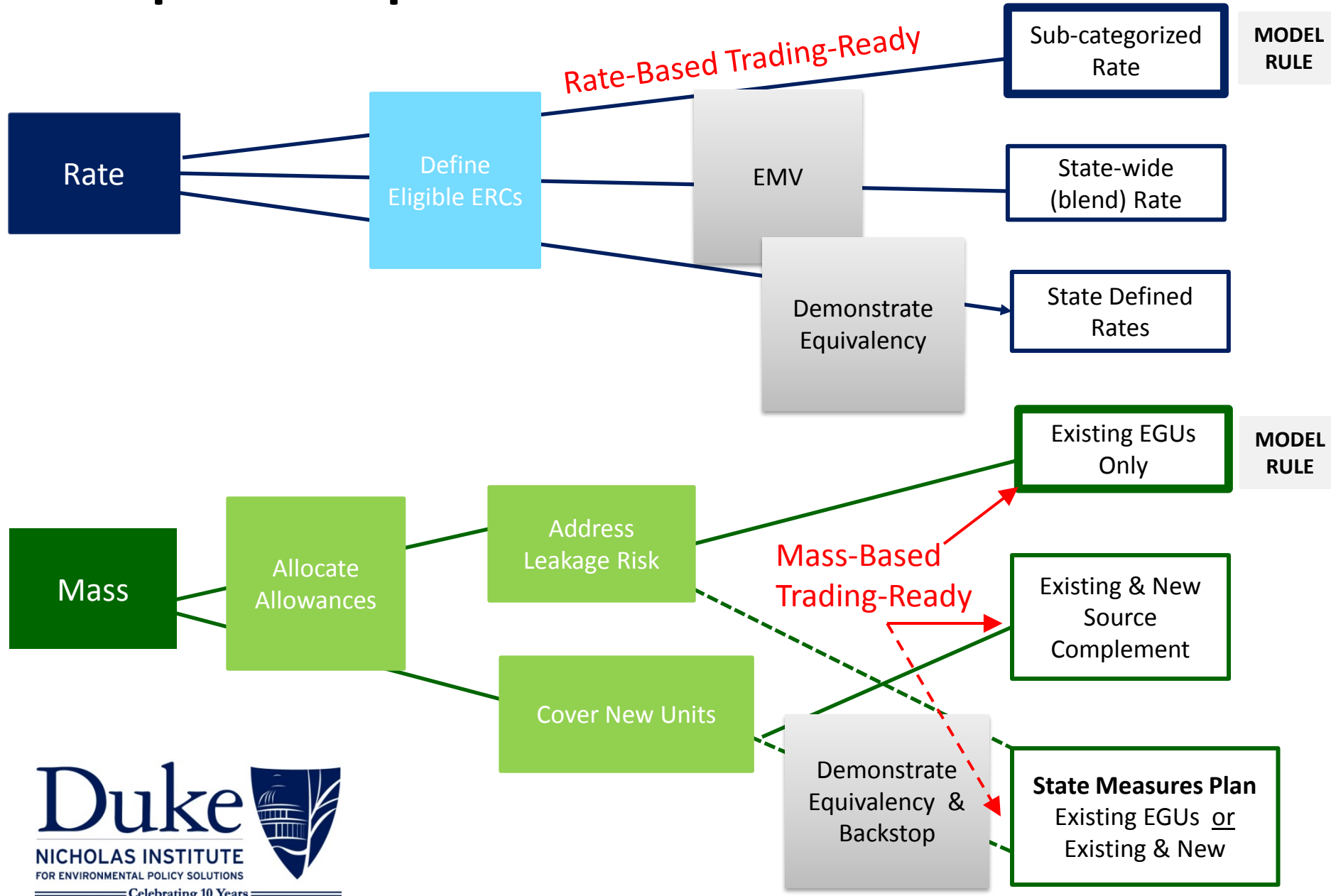
# Decreased Variability Between States

(Southeast states blended rate comparison)

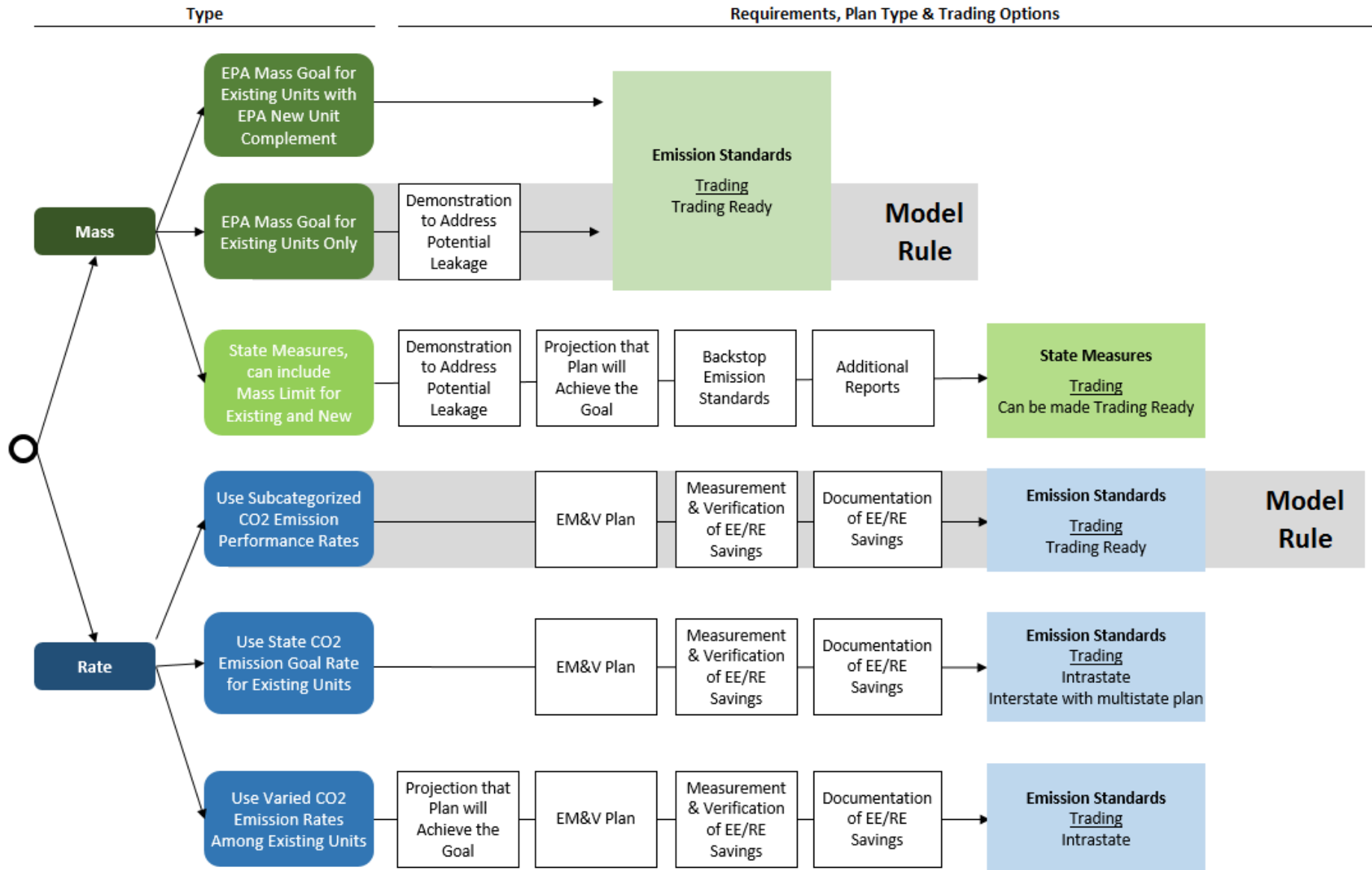


- The final rate goals are much less variable across the country compared to the proposal
- 31 states have less stringent targets (16 have more stringent targets) compared to the proposal

# Compliance Options Overview



# EPA's MAPPING OF THE STATE PLAN APPROACH OPTIONS





# Rate-Based Plan Basics

- Compliance instrument: Emission Rate Credit (ERC)
- 1 ERC = 1 MWh of emissions-free generation added to the denominator
- ERCs are what affected units above their regulated rate turn into air regulator for compliance

$$\text{regulated rate} \geq \frac{(\text{unit annual emissions})}{(\text{unit annual gen} + \text{ERCs as needed})}$$

# Rate-Based Plan Basics

- ERC-eligible resources:
  - qualifying renewables & energy efficiency
  - New and uprated nuclear
  - Affected units operating below their rate goal
    - Sub-category specific rate *or* state blended rate
  - Gas Shift-ERCs for NGCC generation (sub-category performance rates *only*)
- Requires process: must do EM&V for RE generation, EE savings

# Rate-Based Plan Details

Sub-category specific performance rates	State-wide (blended) rate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coal and oil and gas steam units comply with fossil steam rate (e.g. final rate 1305 lbs/MWh)</li><li>• NGCC comply with NGCC rate (e.g. final rate 771 lbs/MWh)</li><li>• Must include mechanism to create Gas Shift ERCs (GS-ERCs)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Model rule GS-ERC equation</li><li>• Only for fossil steam compliance</li></ul></li><li>• Trading Ready</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All covered units comply state blended rate target (GA final blended rate 1049 lbs/MWh)</li><li>• GS-ERCs do not exist</li><li>• Not trading ready</li><li>• Multistate plans okay</li></ul>

# Mass-Based Plan Basics

EPA calculates mass-based goal for existing sources

- New method

New source complement

Compliance instrument: allowance to emit 1 short ton of CO<sub>2</sub>

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New wrinkle: Mass-based plans need to demonstrate they have addressed the risk of leakage to new sources in state plan

3 options available to states

- Include new units under mass limits with new source complement
- Use an allocation method that counteracts leakage
- Other methods demonstrated by state to prevent leakage

# Mass-Based Plans and Leakage

What is leakage: incentive to shift generation to new sources beyond what would occur using sub-category specific performance rates

3 options available to states

- Include new units under mass limits with new source complement
- Use an allocation method that counteracts leakage
  - Model rule: output based allocation set-aside to incentivize existing NGCC & RE set-aside to encourage RE generation
- Other methods demonstrated by state to prevent leakage
  - ‘credible analysis’ demonstrating state plan or circumstances make leakage unlikely

# Mass-Based Allowance Allocation

What is a set-aside: allocating allowances for a specific purpose

- Output based set-aside
- RE set-aside
- CEIP set-aside

What is output based allocation: updating allocation mechanism that awards allowances to eligible sources based on generation

- Output based allocation model rule: to existing NGCC
- Creates incentive for generation

Otherwise EPA is flexible on allowance allocation

- e.g. grandfathering (historical generation, emissions), auction, give to Load Serving Entities and more

# Trading-Ready State Plan Basics

## What is “Trading Ready”?

Allows EGUs and others to trade compliance instruments **with the same definition** with entities in other states without a formal multistate agreement.

Mass	Rate
Allowance representing 1 short ton of CO2 emissions	Emission Rate Credit (ERC) representing 1 MWh of zero carbon generation or avoided emissions

\*Mass can trade with mass and rate with rate.

# Trading Ready State Plan Basics

Trading-Ready Plans must:

- Use mass or subcategorized rate
- Submit as trading-ready
- Use linked or common tracking system
  - Can use EPA's Allowance Tracking & Compliance System (ATCS)

State flexibility:

- Can limit trading partners, turn trading on or off by updating plan
- No plan modification if other states move in and out of trading ready



# Proposed Model Rules & Federal Plan(s)

## Mass

- Existing Units Only
- Set-asides to address risk of leakage to new NGCC
- Trading-ready

## Rate

- Sub-Category Specific Rates
- Trading ready

Federal Plan: If fail to submit or EPA deems inadequate

- Similar to model rules
- Do not know if a state with a federal plan would be mass or rate

# Zero-Emitting ERCs

## Federal Plan proposal\*

- On-shore utility scale wind
- Utility scale solar PV
- Concentrated solar
- Geothermal power
- New/uprate nuclear
- Utility scale hydro

## Model Rule proposal

- All wind
- All solar (including distributed)
- Geothermal
- Hydropower
- Qualified biomass
- Wave
- Tidal
- Waste-to-energy
- New/uprate nuclear
- Non-affected combined heat and power
- Demand-side energy efficiency/  
demand-side management

# Thank you

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