

# MINNEAPOLIS SUPPORT FOR EPA'S CLEAN POWER PLAN

Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Gayle Prest, Sustainability Director

Corey Conover, Attorney's Office

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## Requested Action:

- Support new federal Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Power Plan rules as part of Minneapolis' 2016 Federal Legislative Agenda.
- Direct the City Attorney with assistance from the Sustainability Office to coordinate City's role in supporting the Clean Power Plan.

# Background:

- On August 3, President Obama and EPA announced the Clean Power Plan – an important step in reducing carbon pollution from the biggest source, power plants.
- It relies on a federal-state partnership focusing on existing coal, oil, and gas-fired power plants in the U.S. by setting state-specific CO<sub>2</sub> emission targets that each state is required to meet.
- It provides national consistency, accountability and a level playing field while reflecting each state's energy mix.

# CPP's Alignment with City Goals:

- Tool in meeting City's greenhouse gas emission goals
- Cleaner air
- Enhances green jobs/green economy
- Reduced costs associated with adapting to changing climate (flooding, heat, etc.)

## Next Steps:

- States have considerable flexibility in determining how they will meet EPA's targets, and are encouraged to consider increasing their use of renewable and lower-carbon energy and making more energy efficiency measures available to consumers as well as regulated power plants. Staff is tracking Minnesota's plan.
- Litigation has started and Minneapolis has been asked to join a group of states and other cities in supporting the EPA's action.