The Environmental Protection Agency’s new Clean Power Plan is designed to give states flexibility in meeting their goals. Each state will be allowed to create its own plan to cut carbon pollution, grow the economy and clean up the air we breathe.

In Pennsylvania, we’re already well on our way to meeting our goal of reducing carbon pollution from power plants 32% from 2012 levels by 2030. That’s equivalent to taking 5.6 million cars off the road. The proposed deadlines for submitting draft State Implementation Plans are June 2016 for individual plans and June 2017 for multi-state plans.

**Pennsylvania is already reducing carbon pollution**

Pennsylvania has existing programs that would get us more than halfway to our goal, if they are fully implemented:

- The Energy Savings Act (Act 129) requires utilities to help customers save electricity and money through energy efficiency. If the existing programs are extended through 2030, this would meet **14%** of our goal.
- The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard requires that 8% of our electricity come from renewable sources by 2021, which would meet **23%** of our goal.
- Coal-fired power plants that have already retired since 2012 or announced that they will soon retire will meet **14%** of our goal.

**Closing the gap**

We can meet and exceed our goal with modest increases in energy efficiency and renewable energy:

- Doubling our energy efficiency savings goal from just 0.75% per year to 1.5% per year would make us consistent with leading states, lower peoples’ monthly bills, and get us an additional **14%** toward our goal.
- Increasing the percentage of renewable energy in our mix from 8% to 20% by 2030 would make us more competitive with neighboring states and get us an additional **31%** toward our goal.
- The remaining **4%** can be easily met by a range of options, including updating building codes and increasing power plant efficiency.