



John R. Kasich, Governor  
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor  
Craig W. Butler, Director

DEC 15 2015

Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0734

**Re: Clean Energy Incentive Program Questions and Related Issues Document  
Open for Comment (November 2015)**

To whom it may concern:

U.S. EPA is seeking input and ideas regarding the proposed Clean Energy Incentive Program (CEIP) included in the Clean Power Plan. This request for input was made via a non-regulatory docket at an unspecified time in November and Ohio EPA only recently became aware of the request. While Ohio EPA appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the CEIP; U.S. EPA's request does not provide the appropriate method or timing for meaningful engagement. Comments are requested by December 15, 2015.

U.S. EPA has provided an informal "questions and related issues" document for stakeholder input. Upon review it is apparent that U.S. EPA is requesting input on the fundamental design of CEIP program. And while states are working diligently to review thousands of pages of final rules, proposed rules, the proposed federal plan, technical support documents and proposed guidance in order to prepare meaningful comments for the model rule and federal plan proposal, U.S. EPA is now requesting States take time to individually recommend how U.S. EPA should design the CEIP plan.

Many of these questions are so expansive in nature and would require comprehensive investigation and thought in order to provide meaningful feedback. For example, questions like "How should the 300 million short ton CO<sub>2</sub> emissions-equivalent matching pool be allocated among states participating in the CEIP?" and "How should matching allowances or ERCs that are allocated to a state but not awarded to eligible projects be redistributed among other states with unmet demand for matching allowances or ERCs, and when should this redistribution take place?" cannot be answered quickly and easily in the timeframe requested. Ohio EPA would have preferred U.S. EPA formulate a proposal on the design of a plan with various options and questions regarding those options for stakeholders to consider, rather than providing open ended questions such as "What definition(s) of low-income community" should be required...?"

Due to the short timeframe for this comment period and the significant effort, in-depth research, and analysis that Ohio would need to conduct in order to provide meaningful input on such far reaching questions, it is impossible to devote our limited resources to this task. Especially considering the work we are doing to provide meaningful comment on the regulatory proposals for the federal plan, model rule and guidance by the January 21, 2016 deadline.

At this time Ohio EPA will not submit detailed responses to these questions regarding how to design a CEIP, but we look forward to providing comments and reviewing a formal CEIP proposal. Since this list of questions does not represent a proposal on the ultimate design of the CEIP, U.S.EPA must provide States with the opportunity to comment in the future. We encourage U.S. EPA to allow the CEIP to remain a flexible program and to not have the regulatory burden so great that it makes the CEIP undesirable for States or for developers of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures to participate. If designed appropriately, the CEIP could be a promising opportunity to achieve early reductions and help vulnerable communities in the State of Ohio.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Hodanbosi".

Bob Hodanbosi  
Chief, Ohio EPA, DAPC