



For Immediate Release

Wednesday June 12, 2024

Contact: [Kevin Donohoe](#)/[Brian Lyons](#)

(202) 224-3978

STANDING WITH OHIO ENERGY WORKERS AND RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OPS, BROWN WILL VOTE TO OVERTURN FINAL EPA POWER PLANT RULE

*The Biden Administration Failed to Work with Ohio Workers, Electric Co-
Ops, and Other Affected Ohioans to Fix the Rule; Brown Will Support
Congressional Effort to Overturn It*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) issued the below statement announcing that he will support Congressional efforts to overturn the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) proposed power plant emission rules. Brown had [called on](#) the EPA to work with Ohioans to revise and fix the proposed rule.

While Brown successfully pushed the Administration to remove existing gas-powered plants from the regulation, the administration did not do enough to listen to Ohio stakeholders. The final regulation is particularly harmful to Ohio’s rural electric cooperatives, and relies on promising but currently unproven and unavailable pollution control technologies coupled with unachievable compliance timelines that could cost union jobs, hurt rural electric co-ops, and raise energy costs for Ohioans.

“This is an unrealistic, unachievable rule that could undermine grid reliability, cause job losses for energy workers, and raise energy costs for Ohioans. We warned the Administration that they needed to listen to the Ohioans whose livelihoods and energy bills are at stake – and they didn’t. I will not turn my back on Ohio’s rural electric co-ops, Ohio energy workers, and Ohio families whose energy bills are already too high,” said Brown

“Ohio’s Electric Cooperatives applaud Senator Brown for supporting a Congressional Review Act resolution to stop the harmful U.S. EPA rule on greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. The rule is unachievable, unrealistic, and unlawful. If not stopped by

Congress or in federal court, this rule will severely threaten the reliability of the electric grid and dramatically increase energy costs for rural Americans,” said Pat O’Loughlin, President and CEO, Ohio’s Electric Cooperatives and Buckeye Power.

“EPA’s power plant rule is unlawful, unreasonable and unachievable. Under the rule, EPA illegally attempts to transform the US energy economy by forcing a shift in electricity generation to the agency’s favored sources. EPA exceeded its authority and Congress must overturn its action. We urge Congress to pass this resolution and thank Sen. Brown for his support to reverse this harmful rule,” said National Rural Electric Cooperative Association CEO Jim Matheson.

“Thank you to Senator Brown for supporting Congressional review of the Environmental Protection Agency’s rulemaking on power plant emissions. The rulemaking would harm thousands of workers employed at coal-fired power plants across the country, their families and their communities. We firmly believe we must do more to fully understand the impact of it before this proposed rule moves forward,” said James Slevin, National President of the Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO.

“Our customers deserve reliable and affordable energy. Duke Energy Ohio supports a measured and safe transition from coal to natural gas and renewable generation while simultaneously promoting the development of other technologies and energy sources. We appreciate Senator Brown’s support for the Congressional Review Act efforts from Senator Capito and Congressman Balderson,” said Amy Spiller, President of Duke Energy Ohio and Duke Energy Kentucky.

###