# **Harvard C-CHANGE ACE Working Paper Social Media Kit**

**We would be grateful for your support by sharing the research and its findings this week on your social channels! We’ve provided sample posts for you below.**

**Introduction:**

Researchers from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Syracuse University, Boston University School of Public Health, and Resources for the Future evaluated the cost-benefit analysis for the U.S EPA’s Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) rule, known as a Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA), to determine whether it incorporates the best available information and the conclusions are fully supported. The results are summarized in their new working paper, *Carbon Standards Re-Examined: An Analysis of Potential Emissions Outcomes for the Affordable Clean Energy Rule and the Clean Power Plan.*

**Key Take-Aways:**

* Results from the new analysis call into question the assumptions and predictions in EPA’s cost-benefit analysis.
* Results from the new analysis demonstrates that ACE does little to address climate change and is likely to have even greater adverse air quality and health effects in some states than EPA has predicted.
* EPA should have incorporated relevant policy actions, such as the New Source Review (NSR) reform and the 45Q tax credit, as well as the full suite of technology options, when modeling the emissions impacts of the ACE rule.
* The ACE rule should have been evaluated under a range of reference cases, including one with higher natural gas prices, demand, and renewable energy costs.

**Background:**

On June 19, 2019, the EPA repealed the Obama-era Clean Power Plan (CPP) and finalized the ACE rule. The intent of the ACE rule is to establish the Best System of Emission Reduction for carbon pollution from coal-fired power plants, a requirement under the Clean Air Act. The research team evaluated the RIA by undertaking new energy modeling and conducting side-by-side comparisons of EPA’s findings and assumptions with those of other scenarios.

**Key Take-Away**: The results from this new analysis call into question the assumptions and conclusions in EPA’s cost-benefit analysis. They demonstrate that the ACE rule does little to address climate change and is likely to have even greater adverse air quality and health effects in some states than EPA has projected.

**Why It Matters**

For the rule - By underestimating the magnitude of emissions rebound in the RIA, EPA may have overestimated the net economic benefits of the ACE rule, calling into question whether its benefits truly outweigh its costs. The effect of underestimating emissions rebound on the benefits calculation for the ACE rule depends on how large the actual emissions rebound is likely to be and where it would occur.

For health - Underestimating emissions rebound means that the ACE rule may result in more cases of respiratory illness, heart attacks, worsening asthma, and premature death in some states from exposure to higher fine particulate matter and ozone than EPA has estimated.

For states – In some states, the emissions rebound expected from the ACE rule would shift the burden of curbing CO2 emissions to the states and could undercut their ability to meet their greenhouse gas reduction goals. Emissions rebound may also impact the ability of some states to meet and maintain federal air quality standards.

For the nation - Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions in the U.S. increased by approximately 3.5% in 2018. Our analysis suggests that ACE could drive emissions higher still, making it even more challenging for the U.S. to meet its previous commitments under the Paris climate agreement and to achieve emissions reductions needed by 2030 to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

**Hashtags**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| #ACE  #CleanPowerPlan  #pollution  #environment  #publichealth | #airquality  #healthimpacts  #regulations  #envhealthmatters  #protectscience |

**Contacts:**

* **Communications:** Liz Purchia, Communications Director, [lizpurchia@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:amiller@hsph.harvard.edu)

**Related Twitter Accounts:**

* Harvard C-CHANGE: @HarvardCCHANGE
* Harvard Chan School: @HarvardChanSPH
* Boston University: @BU\_Tweets
* Syracuse University: @SyracuseU
* Resources for the Future: @rff

**Related Facebook Accounts:**

* Harvard C-CHANGE: @HarvardCCHANGE
* Harvard Chan School: @HarvardPublicHealth
* Boston University: @BostonUniversity
* Syracuse University: @SyracuseUniversity
* Resources for the Future: @ResourcesForTheFuture

**More Information:**

* Working Paper: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/c-change/news/carbon-standards-re-examined/>

**Sample Posts:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Twitter** | **Facebook** |
| NEW: @HarvardCCHANGE, @BU\_Tweets, @SyracuseU, and @rff scientists have released a working paper on @EPA's #ACE rule. Their paper calls into question the assumptions and predictions used in the agency's cost-benefit analysis. http://ow.ly/8FMH50v3ev4 #healthimpacts of #pollution. | NEW: @HarvardCCHANGE, @BostonUniversity, @SyracuseUniversity, and @ResourcesForTheFuture scientists have released a working paper on the @EPA's Affordable Clean Energy rule. Their paper calls into question the assumptions and predictions used in the agency's cost-benefit analysis. #healthimpacts of #pollution #ACE  Learn more: http://ow.ly/8FMH50v3ev4 |
| BREAKING: @EPA's #ACE rule could negatively affect heart and lung health, even leading to higher cases of premature death, says a new working paper from @HarvardCCHANGE, @BU\_Tweets, @SyracuseU, and @rff. http://ow.ly/vA0p50v3exS | BREAKING: The @EPA's Affordable Clean Energy rule could negatively affect heart and lung health, even leading to higher cases of premature death, says a new working paper from @HarvardCCHANGE, @BostonUniversity, @SyracuseUniversity, and @ResourcesForTheFuture. #ACE  Read on: http://ow.ly/vA0p50v3exS |
| "#ACE does little to address #climatechange and is likely to have even greater adverse #airquality and health effects in some states than @EPA has projected," says our new working paper with @BU\_Tweets, @SyracuseU, and @rff. http://ow.ly/NVPm50v3ez2 | "ACE does little to address climate change and is likely to have even greater adverse air quality and health effects in some states than the @EPA has projected," says our new working paper with @BostonUniversity, @SyracuseUniversity, and @ResourcesForTheFuture. #ACE #climatechange #airquality  To learn more: http://ow.ly/NVPm50v3ez2 |
| Researchers from @BU\_Tweets, @SyracuseU, and @rff studied @EPA's cost-benefit analysis for the #ACE rule, finding that EPA underestimated potential #emission increases, which can lead to adverse #health effects, like heart and lung disease. LINK | Researchers from @HarvardC-CHANGE, @BostonUniversity, @SyracuseUniversity, and @ResourcesForTheFuture studied the @EPA's cost-benefit analysis for the Affordable Clean Energy rule, finding that EPA underestimated potential emission increases, which can lead to adverse health effects, including heart and lung disease. #emissions #publichealth #pollution #ACE  Learn more: LINK |
| Unlike the #ACE rule, a revamped #CleanPowerPlan to reflect current market conditions would lower #emissions and improve #publichealth, according to a new working paper from @HarvardCCHANGE, @BU\_Tweets, @SyracuseU, and @rff. LINK | Unliked the Affordable Clean Energy rule, a revamped Clean Power Plan to reflect current market conditions would lower emissions and improve public health, according to a new working paper from @HarvardCCHANGE, @BostonUniversity, @SyracuseUniversity, and @ResourcesForTheFuture. #ACE #emissions #publichealth  For more information: LINK |
| Researchers from @BU\_Tweets, @SyracuseU, @rff, and @HarvardCCHANGE published a working paper that addresses @EPA's new #ACE rule, arguing that EPA should have incorporated relevant policy and technology factors when modeling the #emissions impacts of ACE. LINK | Researchers from @BostonUniversity, @SyracuseUniversity, @ResourcesForTheFuture, and @HarvardCCHANGE published a working paper that addresses @EPA's new #ACE rule. They argue that EPA should have incorporated relevant policy and technology options when modeling the #emissions impacts of ACE. LINK |
| .@HarvardCCHANGE, @BU\_Tweets, @SyracuseU, and @rff scientists found @EPA may have underestimated economic benefits of #ACE, calling into question whether its benefits outweigh its costs, including adverse #publichealth effects. Read their working paper: http://ow.ly/w2n350v3lBJ | @HarvardCCHANGE, @BostonUniversity, @SyracuseUniversity, and @ResourcesForTheFuture scientists found the @EPA may have underestimated economic benefits of the Affordable Clean Energy rule, calling into question whether its benefits outweigh its costs, including adverse public health effects. #ACE #publichealth  Read their working paper: http://ow.ly/w2n350v3lBJ |
| An analysis from @HarvardCCHANGE, @BU\_Tweets, @SyracuseU, and @rff found that @EPA's #ACE could drive nationwide #emissions, making it harder to achieve reductions needed to combat #climatechange as outlined in the #ParisAgreement. http://ow.ly/umrv50v3lJ1 | An analysis from @HarvardCCHANGE, @BostonUniversity, @SyracuseUniversity, and @ResourcesForTheFuture found that the @EPA's Affordable Clean Energy rule could drive nationwide emissions, making it harder to achieve reductions needed to combat climate change as outlined in the ParisAgreement. #ACE #climatechange #ParisAgreement  Learn more: http://ow.ly/umrv50v3lJ1 |