

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Alexandra Roose, 202-448-0202, alexandra@spitfirestrategies.com

Todd Datz, 617-432-8413, tdatz@hsph.harvard.edu

New Study Links Strong Carbon Standards to Nationwide Health Benefits

Harvard, Syracuse and Boston University scientists map co-benefits of power plant carbon standards for human health

WHAT: Press teleconference, webinar and Q&A with lead authors of new study, *Health Co-benefits of Carbon Standards for Existing Power Plants*. Scientists at Harvard, Syracuse and Boston Universities analyzed three policy options for the EPA Clean Power Plan to estimate public health benefits across the country. On the teleconference, these scientists will share details of the study, which finds that substantial health benefits can occur – from lives saved to reductions in heart attacks and hospital admissions – depending on the policy options included in the final EPA rule.

WHEN: **Tuesday, September 30, 2014**
1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. EDT

WHERE: Teleconference: 1-877-885-3221
Passcode: 5134420
Webinar link*: http://spitfirestrategies.adobeconnect.com/science_policy_exchange_press_teleconference/

WHO:

- Joel Schwartz, Ph.D., Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard University
- Jonathan Buonocore, Sc.D., Center for Health and the Global Environment, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard University
- Jon Levy, Sc.D., Boston University
- Charles Driscoll, Ph.D., Syracuse University
- Kathy Fallon Lambert, M.S., Harvard Forest, Harvard University; Science Policy Exchange (moderator)

WHY: On June 2, 2014, the EPA proposed the Clean Power Plan to reduce carbon pollution from the nation's existing power plants and protect our health and environment. Power plants are the largest source of carbon pollution in the U.S., accounting for roughly 40 percent of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions. The EPA is currently taking public comments on the proposed rule through December 1, and the rule is expected to be finalized in June 2015.

Aimed at addressing global climate change, standards to reduce carbon pollution from U.S. power plants will also dramatically cut other harmful pollutants and lead to substantial human health benefits across the country. The study being released on September 30 is the second in a three-part **series** mapping and quantifying the co-benefits of decreasing carbon dioxide emissions from the nation's power plants. The study finds that every state in the U.S. will reap human health benefits from a strong carbon standard depicted by the top-performing option in the study. Areas with large populations situated near or downwind from high-emitting power plants stand to gain the greatest benefits.

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