The U.S. EPA has published carbon dioxide emission 2030 state goals for electric power plants. These goals vary widely from state-to-state. The rational and methodology for these 50 different goals are given and discussed in detail in the full publication. After considering public comments, EPA is to publish a final ruling within one year.

Based on economic cost and benefits estimates, a set of five very specific carbon abatement measures were selected. The five used for calculation of the individual state goals are as follows:

1. Increasing existing coal power plant efficiencies by 6%;
2. More fully utilizing existing natural gas power plants and thereby reducing power generation from existing coal power plants. This is proposed as an existing power plant fleet operational change;
3. Completing and utilizing the nuclear power plants currently under construction and maintaining the operational life of existing nuclear power plants. No additional new nuclear power plants were proposed other than those currently under construction in Georgia and S. Carolina;
4. New renewable electrical energy sources, e.g., solar, wind, etc.
5. Reducing electric consumption by improving the efficiency of utilization; e.g., heating, cooling, lighting, manufacturing processes, etc.

These abatement measures are not proposed as mandated actions that must be carried out by states, but are used as a straw-man plan by which the state goals were calculated.

The state goals are expressed as emissions rates in mass of carbon dioxide produced per unit of electricity generated. It is analogous to a miles per gallon standard for automobiles. Standards for auto efficiency do not limit the total fuel used per year, and the Clean Power Plan does not limit the total quantity of electricity generated and utilized.

EPA calculated the 2012 Georgia state wide average carbon emissions rating to have been 1598 pounds per megawatt-hour. The calculated 2030 goal is 834 pounds per megawatt-hour. This is a 48% decrease. The break down of this 48% carbon reduction into the five different assumed abatement measures is as follows.

- Completion of nuclear plant under construction: 16%
- Dispatching existing natural gas plants first: 14%
- New renewable energy generation: 7%
- Improving electric use efficiency: 6%
- Improving existing coal plant efficiency: 5%

Under the proposed regulations, Georgia would be free to use any means they chose to meet the 2030 goal of 834 pounds per megawatt-hour. The abatement measures used to arrive at the state-by-state goals are presented as one set of options to demonstrate that the standard is reasonable and within regulatory guidelines.
The pie chart illustrates the breakdown of energy sources towards the 2030 target. The largest segment, accounting for 52%, is New Renewable Generation. Other segments include:

- New Nuclear: 16%
- Redispatch Gas & Coal: 14%
- New Renewable Generation: 7%
- Increased User Efficiency: 6%
- 6% Coal Efficiency Increase: 4%

The chart is proportional to these contributions towards achieving the 2030 energy target.