

**Volume 253 September 27, 2011**

**House Passes "Train Act" after adding more anti-EPA measures**

The House last Friday passed a Republican-backed bill that would block two of the Obama administration's signature air pollution rules for coal-fired power plants while a new Cabinet-level panel studies the cumulative effect of about a dozen rules on the economy. The vote on the "TRAIN Act" ([H.R. 2401](#)), introduced by Rep. John Sullivan (R-Okla.), followed a floor debate between Republicans who argue the struggling economy needs a break from new regulations that would raise the cost of energy, and Democrats who say power companies are exaggerating the costs of cleaning up soot, smog and mercury in the air.

Democrats described today's vote as the most brazen attack on environmental safeguards in the history of the Clean Air Act. "If we weaken the law," cautioned House Energy and Commerce Committee ranking member Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) on the House floor today, "air quality will suffer."

The bill passed largely along party lines, 233-180, after a series of rapid-fire amendment votes added provisions to extend the delays of the coal-plant rules and rewrite the Clean Air Act to make it more sensitive to costs and less driven by public health concerns. Four Republicans voted against the final bill and 19 Democrats crossed the aisle to vote for it.

The legislation was backed by business groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, which say that heavy industry is unable to expand and hire because new regulations are hanging over their heads. The bill's centerpiece is the new interagency commission led by the secretary of the Commerce Department, which would be directed to perform an economic analysis of more than a dozen rules and come back with a final report next year. Amendments passed today would expand the study to include new toxic emissions standards for cement kilns and rules for the formulation of gasoline.

**Electricity Pricing Areas – On Peak Oct 2011**

|                | Sep 27, 2011        | Per kWh         |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <b>PJM</b>     | <b>West</b>         | <b>\$.04409</b> |
| <b>Cinergy</b> | <b>Peak Monthly</b> | <b>\$.03428</b> |

**ComEd Average Day Ahead LMP Electric Price**

| Time Period                 | Average per Kwh |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Sep 1 - Sep 30</b>       | <b>\$.02934</b> |
| <b>Oct 1 - Oct 31</b>       | <b>\$.02702</b> |
| <b>Nov 1 - Nov 30</b>       | <b>\$.02778</b> |
| <b>Dec 1 - Dec 31</b>       | <b>\$.03545</b> |
| <b>Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2011</b> | <b>\$.03871</b> |
| <b>Feb 1 - Feb 28</b>       | <b>\$.03581</b> |
| <b>March 1- Mar 31</b>      | <b>\$.03668</b> |
| <b>April 1 - April 30</b>   | <b>\$.03448</b> |
| <b>May1- May 31</b>         | <b>\$.03954</b> |
| <b>June 1 - June 30</b>     | <b>\$.03851</b> |
| <b>July 1 thru July 31</b>  | <b>\$.05170</b> |
| <b>Aug 1 - Aug 31</b>       | <b>\$.04064</b> |
| <b>Sep 1 thru Sep 26</b>    | <b>\$.03086</b> |

**Weather Today:** Cloudy with showers. High around 60F. Winds NE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 90%. **Tonight:** Cloudy with showers. Low 53F. Winds NW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 60%. **Wed:** Cloudy with occasional rain showers. High 62F. Winds NW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 50%. **Thu:** Windy with times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s. **Fri:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the upper 40s. **Sat:** Sunshine. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the mid 40s.

