

5. Emission Control Technologies

This chapter describes the emission control technology assumptions implemented in the EPA 2023 Reference Case. EPA uses retrofit emission control cost models developed for EPA by the engineering firm Sargent & Lundy. EPA 2023 Reference Case includes assumptions regarding control options for sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), mercury (Hg), carbon dioxide (CO₂), and hydrogen chloride (HCl). The options are listed in Table 5-1. They are available in EPA 2023 Reference Case for meeting existing and potential federal, regional, and state emission limits. Besides the options shown in Table 5-1 and described in this chapter, EPA 2023 Reference Case offers other compliance options for meeting emission limits. These include switching fuel, adjusting the level of dispatch, and retiring.

Table 5-1 Retrofit Emission Control Options in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| SO₂ Control Technology Options | NO_x Control Technology Options | Mercury Control Technology Options | CO₂ Control Technology Options | HCl Control Technology Options |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Limestone Forced Oxidation (LSFO) Scrubber | Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) System | Activated Carbon Injection (ACI) System | CO ₂ Capture and Sequestration | Limestone Forced Oxidation (LSFO) Scrubber |
| Lime Spray Dryer (LSD) Scrubber | Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR) System | SO ₂ and NO _x Control Technology Removal Co-benefits | Coal-to-Gas | Lime Spray Dryer (LSD) Scrubber |
| Dry Sorbent Injection (DSI) | | | Natural Gas Co-firing | Dry Sorbent Injection (DSI) |

Attachments 5-1 through 5-11 contain detailed reports and example calculation worksheets for the Sargent & Lundy retrofit emission control cost models used by the EPA.

5.1 Sulfur Dioxide Control Technologies - Scrubbers

Two commercially available Flue Gas Desulfurization (FGD) scrubber technology options for removing the SO₂ produced by coal-fired power plants are offered in EPA 2023 Reference Case: Limestone Forced Oxidation (LSFO) — a wet FGD technology and Lime Spray Dryer (LSD) — a semi-dry FGD technology which employs a spray dryer absorber (SDA). In wet FGD systems, the polluted gas stream is brought into contact with a liquid alkaline sorbent (typically limestone) by forcing it through a pool of the liquid slurry or by spraying it with the liquid. In dry FGD systems, the polluted gas stream is brought into contact with the alkaline sorbent in a semi-dry state through the use of a spray dryer. The removal efficiency for SDA drops steadily for coals whose SO₂ content exceeds 3 lbs SO₂/MMBtu, the technology is therefore provided to only plants which have the option to burn coals with sulfur content no greater than 3 lbs SO₂/MMBtu. Hence, when a unit retrofits with an LSD SO₂ scrubber, it loses the option of burning certain high sulfur content coals (see Table 5-2).

The LSFO and LSD SO₂ emission control technologies are available to existing unscrubbed units. They are also available to existing scrubbed units with reported removal efficiencies of less than 50%. Such units are considered to have an injection technology and are classified as unscrubbed for modeling purposes in the NEEDS database. The scrubber retrofit costs for these units are the same as those for regular unscrubbed units retrofitting with a scrubber.

Default SO₂ removal rates for wet and dry FGD were based on data reported in EIA 860 (2018). These default removal rates were the average of all SO₂ removal rates for a dry or wet FGD as reported in EIA 860 (2018) for the FGD installation year.

The following adjustment is made to reduce the incidence of implausibly high outlier removal rates. Units for which reported EIA Form 860 (2018) SO₂ removal rates are higher than the average of the upper quartile of SO₂ removal rates across all scrubbed units are assigned the upper quartile average. The adjustment is not made, however, if a unit's reported removal rate was recently confirmed by utility

comments. Furthermore, one upper quartile removal rate is calculated across all installation years and replaces any reported removal rate that exceeds it, no matter the installation year.

Existing units not reporting FGD removal rates in EIA Form 860 (2018) are assigned the default SO₂ removal rate for a dry or wet FGD for that installation year.

As shown in Table 5-2, for FGD retrofits installed by the model, the assumed SO₂ removal rates will be 98% for wet FGD and 95% for dry FGD.

The procedures used to derive the cost of each scrubber type are discussed in detail in the following sections.

Table 5-2 Retrofit SO₂ Emission Control Performance Assumptions in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Performance Assumptions | Limestone Forced Oxidation (LSFO) | Lime Spray Dryer (LSD) |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Percent Removal* | 98% with a floor of 0.06 lbs/MMBtu | 95% with a floor of 0.08 lbs/MMBtu |
| Capacity Penalty | Calculated based on characteristics of the unit: See Table 5-3 | Calculated based on characteristics of the unit: See Table 5-3 |
| Heat Rate Penalty | | |
| Cost (2022\$) | | |
| Applicability | Units ≥ 25 MW | Units ≥ 25 MW |
| Sulfur Content Applicability | | Coals ≤ 3 lbs SO ₂ /MMBtu |
| Applicable Coal Types | BA, BB, BD, BE, BG, BH, SA, SB, SD, SE, LD, LE, LG, LH, PK, and WC | BA, BB, BD, BE, SA, SB, SD, SE, LD, and LE |

* If the SO₂ permit rate of the unit is lower than the floor rate, the SO₂ permit rate is used as the floor rate.

Potential (new) coal-fired units built by IPM are also assumed to be constructed with a wet scrubber achieving a removal efficiency of 98%. Further, the costs of potential new coal units include the cost of scrubbers.

5.1.1 Methodology for Obtaining SO₂ Controls Costs

Sargent & Lundy’s performance/cost models for wet and dry SO₂ scrubbers are implemented in EPA 2023 Reference Case to develop the capital, fixed O&M (FOM), and variable O&M (VOM) components of cost. For details of Sargent & Lundy Wet FGD and SDA FGD cost models, see Attachment 5-1 and Attachment 5-2.

Capacity and Heat Rate Penalties: In IPM the amount of electrical power required to operate a retrofit emission control device is represented through a reduction in the amount of electricity available for sale to the grid. For example, if 1.6% of a unit’s electrical generation is needed to operate a scrubber, the unit’s capacity is reduced by 1.6%. The reduction in the unit’s capacity is called the capacity penalty. At the same time, to capture the total fuel used in generation both for sale to the grid and for internal load (i.e., for operating the control device), the unit’s heat rate is scaled up such that a comparable reduction (1.6% in the example) in the new higher heat rate yields the original heat rate.⁴⁶ The factor used to scale up the original heat rate is called the heat rate penalty. It is a modeling procedure only and does not represent an increase in the unit’s actual heat rate (i.e., a decrease in the unit’s generation efficiency).⁴⁷ In EPA

⁴⁶ Mathematically, the relationship of the heat rate and capacity penalties (both expressed as positive percentage values) can be represented as follows:

$$\text{Heat Rate Penalty} = \left(\frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{\text{Capacity Penalty}}{100}\right)} - 1 \right) \times 100$$

⁴⁷ The NEEDS heat rate is an unmodified, original heat rate to which this retrofit-based heat rate penalty procedure is applied. The procedure is limited to units at which IPM adds a retrofit in the model.

2023 Reference Case, specific LSFO and LSD heat rate and capacity penalties are calculated for each installation based on equations from the Sargent & Lundy models that consider the rank of coal burned, its uncontrolled SO₂ rate, and the heat rate of the model plant.

Table 5-3 presents the LSFO and LSD capital, fixed O&M, and variable O&M costs, as well as capacity and heat rate penalties for representative capacities and heat rates.

5.1.2 SO₂ Controls for Units with Capacities from 25 MW to 100 MW (25 MW ≤ capacity < 100 MW)

In EPA 2023 Reference Case, coal units with capacities between 25 MW and 100 MW are offered the same SO₂ control options as larger units. However, for modeling purposes, the costs of controls for these units are assumed to be equivalent to that of 50 MW for Dry FGD and 100 MW for Wet FGD. These assumptions are based on several considerations. First, to achieve economies of scale, several units within this size range are likely to be ducted to share a single common control, so the minimum capacity cost equivalency assumption, though generic, would be technically plausible. Second, single units within this size range that are not grouped to achieve economies of scale are likely to switch to a lower sulfur coal, repower or convert to natural gas firing, use dry sorbent injection, and/or reduce operating hours.

Illustrative scrubber costs for 25-100 MW coal units with a range of heat rates can be found by referring to the LSFO 100 MW and LSD 100MW “Capital Costs (\$/kW)” and “Fixed O&M” columns in Table 5-3. The Variable O&M cost component, which applies to units regardless of size, can be found in the fifth column in this table.

Table 5-3 Illustrative Scrubber Costs (2022\$) for Representative Capacities and Heat Rates in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Scrubber Type | Heat Rate (Btu/kWh) | Capacity Penalty (%) | Heat Rate Penalty (%) | Variable O&M (mills/kWh) | Capacity (MW) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | 100 | | 300 | | 500 | | 700 | | 1000 | |
| | | | | | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) |
| LSFO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Minimum Cutoff: ≥ 100 MW | 9,000 | -1.60 | 1.63 | 2.66 | 1075 | 29.7 | 781 | 14.2 | 673 | 10.6 | 610 | 9.8 | 550 | 8.1 |
| Maximum Cutoff: None | 10,000 | -1.78 | 1.82 | 2.94 | 1,125 | 30.3 | 817 | 14.6 | 705 | 10.9 | 639 | 10.1 | 576 | 8.3 |
| Assuming 3 lb/MMBtu SO ₂ Content Bituminous Coal | 11,000 | -1.96 | 2.00 | 3.22 | 1,173 | 30.8 | 852 | 14.9 | 735 | 11.2 | 667 | 10.3 | 601 | 8.6 |
| LSD | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Minimum Cutoff: ≥ 100 MW | 9,000 | -1.18 | 1.20 | 3.16 | 908 | 21.7 | 664 | 10.9 | 575 | 8.3 | 516 | 7.0 | 516 | 6.5 |
| Maximum Cutoff: None | 10,000 | -1.32 | 1.33 | 3.52 | 950 | 22.1 | 696 | 11.2 | 602 | 8.6 | 540 | 7.3 | 540 | 6.7 |
| Assuming 2 lb/MMBtu SO ₂ Content Bituminous Coal | 11,000 | -1.45 | 1.47 | 3.88 | 991 | 22.6 | 726 | 11.5 | 628 | 8.9 | 563 | 7.5 | 563 | 6.9 |

Note 1: The above cost estimates assume a boiler burning 3 lb/MMBtu SO₂ Content Bituminous Coal for LSFO and 2 lb/MMBtu SO₂ Content Bituminous Coal for LSD.

Note 2: The Variable O&M costs in this table do not include the cost of additional auxiliary power (VOMP) component in the Sargent & Lundy cost models. For modeling purposes, IPM reflects the auxiliary power consumption through capacity penalty.

5.2 Nitrogen Oxides Control Technology

There are two main categories of NO_x reduction technologies: combustion and post-combustion controls. Combustion controls reduce NO_x emissions during the combustion process by regulating flame characteristics such as temperature and fuel-air mixing. Post-combustion controls operate downstream of the combustion process and remove NO_x emissions from the flue gas. All the technologies included in EPA 2023 Reference Case are commercially available and currently in use in numerous power plants.

5.2.1 Combustion Controls

EPA 2023 Reference Case does not model combustion control upgrades as a retrofit option. The decision was based on two considerations: the relatively low cost of combustion controls compared with that of post-combustion NO_x controls and the possible impact on model size. EPA identified units in NEEDS that have not employed state-of-the-art combustion controls. EPA then estimated the NO_x rates for such units based on an analysis of historical rates of units with state-of-the-art NO_x combustion controls. Emission rates provided by state-of-the-art combustion controls are presented in Attachment 3-2.

5.2.2 Post-combustion NO_x Controls

EPA 2023 Reference Case provides two post-combustion retrofit NO_x control technologies for existing coal units: Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) and Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR). Oil/gas steam units, on the other hand, are provided with only SCR retrofits. NO_x reduction in a SCR system takes place by injecting ammonia (NH₃) vapor into the flue gas stream, where the NO_x is reduced to nitrogen (N₂) and water (H₂O) abetted by passing over a catalyst bed typically containing titanium, vanadium oxides, molybdenum, and/or tungsten. As its name implies, SNCR operates without a catalyst. In an SNCR system, a nitrogenous reducing agent (reagent), typically urea or ammonia, is injected into and mixed with hot flue gas, where it reacts with the NO_x in the gas stream, reducing it to nitrogen and water vapor. Due to the presence of a catalyst, SCR can achieve greater NO_x reductions than SNCR. However, SCR costs are higher than SNCR costs.

Table 5-4 summarizes the performance and applicability assumptions for each post-combustion NO_x control technology and provides a cross-reference to information on cost assumptions.

Table 5-4 Retrofit NO_x Emission Control Performance Assumptions in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Control Performance Assumptions | Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) | | Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR) |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| | Coal | Oil/Gas | Coal |
| Unit Type | Coal | Oil/Gas | Coal |
| Output Rate | 0.05 lb/MMBtu | 0.03 lb/MMBtu | -- |
| Percent Removal | -- | -- | Pulverized Coal: 25% (25-200 MW), 20% (200-400 MW), 15% (>400 MW) Fluidized Bed: 50% |
| Rate Floor | -- | -- | Pulverized Coal: 0.1 lb/MMBtu Fluidized Bed: 0.08 lb/MMBtu |
| Size Applicability | Units ≥ 25 MW | Units ≥ 25 MW | Units ≥ 25 MW |
| Costs (2022\$) | See Table 5-5 | See Table 5-6 | See Table 5-5 |

5.2.3 Methodology for Obtaining SCR and SNCR Costs for Coal Steam Units

Sargent & Lundy SCR and SNCR cost models are implemented to develop the capital, fixed O&M, and variable O&M costs. For details of Sargent & Lundy SCR and SNCR cost models, see Attachment 5-3, Attachment 5-4, Attachment 5-5, and Attachment 5-6.

In the Sargent & Lundy's cost models for SNCR, the NO_x removal efficiency varies by unit size and burner type as summarized in Table 5-4. Additionally, the capital, fixed, and variable operating and maintenance costs of SNCR on circulating fluidized bed (CFB) units are distinguished from the corresponding costs for other boiler types (e.g., cyclone and wall fired). -An air heater modification cost applies for plants that burn bituminous coal whose SO₂ content is 3 lbs/MMBtu or greater.

Table 5-5 presents the SCR and SNCR capital, fixed O&M, and variable O&M costs as well as capacity and heat rate penalties for coal steam units of representative capacities and heat rates.

Table 5-5 Illustrative Post Combustion NO_x Control Costs (2022\$) for Coal Plants for Representative Sizes and Heat Rates under the Assumptions in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Control Type | Heat Rate (Btu/kWh) | Capacity Penalty (%) | Heat Rate Penalty (%) | Variable O&M (mills/kWh) | Capacity (MW) | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | 100 | | 300 | | 500 | | 700 | | 1000 | |
| | | | | | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) |
| SCR Minimum Cutoff: ≥ 100 MW Maximum Cutoff: None Assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | -0.54 | 0.54 | 1.51 | 482 | 2.38 | 394 | 1.06 | 365 | 0.90 | 349 | 0.83 | 333 | 0.77 |
| NO _x rate: 0.5 lb/MMBtu | 10,000 | -0.56 | 0.56 | 1.63 | 524 | 2.52 | 431 | 1.13 | 400 | 0.98 | 382 | 0.90 | 366 | 0.84 |
| SO ₂ rate: 2.0 lb/MMBtu | 11,000 | -0.58 | 0.59 | 1.75 | 565 | 2.67 | 467 | 1.21 | 434 | 1.05 | 415 | 0.97 | 398 | 0.90 |
| SNCR - Tangential, 25% Removal Efficiency Minimum Cutoff: ≥ 25 MW Maximum Cutoff: 200 MW Assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | -0.05 | 0.05 | 1.25 | 77 | 0.69 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| NO _x rate: 0.5 lb/MMBtu | 10,000 | | | 1.38 | 79 | 0.70 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| SO ₂ rate: 2.0 lb/MMBtu | 11,000 | | | 1.53 | 81 | 0.72 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| SNCR - Tangential, 20% Removal Efficiency Minimum Cutoff: ≥ 200 MW Maximum Cutoff: 400 MW Assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | -0.05 | 0.05 | 1.00 | N/A | N/A | 41 | 0.36 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| NO _x rate: 0.5 lb/MMBtu | 10,000 | | | 1.10 | N/A | N/A | 42 | 0.37 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| SO ₂ rate: 2.0 lb/MMBtu | 11,000 | | | 1.21 | N/A | N/A | 43 | 0.38 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| SNCR - Tangential, 15% Removal Efficiency Minimum Cutoff: ≥ 400 MW Maximum Cutoff: None Assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | -0.05 | 0.05 | 0.75 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 30 | 0.27 | 25 | 0.22 | 20 | 0.18 |
| NO _x rate: 0.5 lb/MMBtu | 10,000 | | | 0.83 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 31 | 0.27 | 25 | 0.23 | 21 | 0.19 |
| SO ₂ rate: 2.0 lb/MMBtu | 11,000 | | | 0.91 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 31 | 0.28 | 26 | 0.23 | 21 | 0.19 |
| SNCR - Fluidized Bed Minimum Cutoff: ≥ 25 MW Maximum Cutoff: None Assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | -0.05 | 0.05 | 1.25 | 58 | 0.51 | 31 | 0.28 | 24 | 0.21 | 19 | 0.17 | 16 | 0.14 |
| NO _x rate: 0.5 lb/MMBtu | 10,000 | | | 1.38 | 59 | 0.53 | 32 | 0.28 | 24 | 0.21 | 20 | 0.18 | 16 | 0.15 |
| SO ₂ rate: 2.0 lb/MMBtu | 11,000 | | | 1.53 | 60 | 0.54 | 33 | 0.29 | 25 | 0.22 | 20 | 0.18 | 17 | 0.15 |

Note 1: Assumes Bituminous Coal, NO_x rate: 0.5 lb/MMBtu, and SO₂ rate: 2.0 lb/MMBtu.

Note 2: The Variable O&M costs in this table do not include the cost of additional auxiliary power (VOMP) component in the Sargent & Lundy cost models. For modeling purposes, IPM reflects the auxiliary power consumption through capacity penalty.

Note 3: Heat rate penalty includes the effect of capacity penalty.

5.2.4 Methodology for Obtaining SCR Costs for Oil/Gas Steam Units

The cost calculations for SCR described in section 5.2.3 apply to coal units. Table 5-6 presents the SCR capital, fixed O&M, and variable O&M costs as well as capacity and heat rate penalties for oil/gas steam units of representative capacities and heat rates.

Table 5-6 Post-Combustion NOx Controls Costs (2022\$) for Oil/Gas Steam for Representative Sizes and Heat Rates under the Assumptions in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Control Type | Heat Rate (Btu/kWh) | Capacity Penalty (%) | Heat Rate Penalty (%) | Variable O&M (mills/kWh) | Capacity (MW) | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | 100 | | 300 | | 500 | | 700 | | 1000 | |
| | | | | | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) |
| SCR | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Minimum Cutoff: ≥ 100 MW | 9,000 | -0.27 | 0.27 | 1.15 | 208 | 1.42 | 156 | 0.56 | 140 | 0.43 | 132 | 0.38 | 124 | 0.33 |
| Maximum Cutoff: None | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Assuming Natural Gas | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NO _x rate: 0.5 lb/MMBtu | 10,000 | -0.28 | 0.28 | 1.27 | 224 | 1.47 | 169 | 0.59 | 153 | 0.46 | 144 | 0.40 | 136 | 0.35 |
| SO ₂ rate: 2.0 lb/MMBtu | 11,000 | -0.29 | 0.29 | 1.39 | 240 | 1.53 | 183 | 0.61 | 165 | 0.48 | 156 | 0.43 | 147 | 0.38 |

Notes:

The SCR retrofit option in the table above is provided to only coal steam units that have retrofitted with a Coal-to-Gas option.

5.3 Biomass Co-firing

Biomass co-firing is provided as an option for those coal-fired units in EPA 2023 Reference Case that per EIA Form 923 had co-fired biomass during the 2018-2022 period. Table 5-7 lists the units provided with the co-firing option and the limit on the share of the biomass co-firing. The remaining coal power plants are not provided with this choice as logistics and boiler engineering considerations place limits on the extent of biomass that can be fired. The logistical considerations arise primarily because biomass is only economic to transport a limited distance from where it is grown due to its relatively low energy density. In addition, the extent of storage that can be devoted at a power plant to such a fuel is another limiting factor. Boiler efficiency and other engineering considerations, largely driven by the relatively higher moisture content and lower heat content of biomass compared to fossil fuel, also plays a role in limiting the potential adoption of co-firing.

Table 5-7 Coal Units with Biomass Co-firing Option in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Plant Name | Unit ID | Biomass Co-Firing Share Limit (%) ⁴⁸ |
|---|---------|---|
| Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center | 1 | 16.26% |
| Northampton Generating Company LP | BLR1 | 0.61% |
| Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC - Spring Grove Facility | 5PB036 | 32.94% |
| Manitowoc | 9 | 16.55% |
| Schiller | 4 | 0.25% |
| Schiller | 6 | 0.19% |

5.4 Mercury Control Technologies

For any power plant, mercury emissions depend on the mercury content of the fuel used, the combustion and physical characteristics of the unit, and the emission control technologies deployed. In the absence of activated carbon injection (ACI), mercury emission reductions below the mercury content of the fuel are strictly due to characteristics of the combustion process and incidental removal resulting from other pollution control technologies, e.g., the SO₂, NO_x, and particulate matter controls. The following discussion is divided into three parts. Sections 5.4.1 and 5.4.2 explain the two factors that determine mercury emissions that result from unit configurations lacking ACI. Section 5.4.1 discusses how the mercury content of a fuel is modeled. Section 5.4.2 looks at the procedure to capture the mercury reductions resulting from different unit and (non-mercury) control configurations. Section 5.4.3 explains the mercury emission control options that are available. Each section indicates the data sources and methodology used.

5.4.1 Mercury Content of Fuels

Coal

Assumptions pertaining to the mercury content of coal (and the majority of emission modification factors discussed below in Section 5.4.2) are derived from EPA's "Information Collection Request for Electric Utility Steam Generating Unit Mercury Emissions Information Collection Effort" (ICR).⁴⁹ A two-year effort initiated in 1998 and completed in 2000, the ICR had three main components: (1) identifying all coal-fired units owned and operated by publicly-owned utility companies, federal power agencies, rural electric cooperatives, and investor-owned utility generating companies, (2) obtaining "accurate information on the

⁴⁸ In EPA 2023 Reference Case, the limit on biomass co-firing is expressed as the percentage of the facility (ORIS code) level fuel input that is produced from biomass.

⁴⁹ Data from the ICR can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/combust/utilltox/mercury.html>. In 2009, EPA collected some additional information regarding mercury through the Collection Effort for New and Existing Coal- and Oil-Fired Electricity Utility Steam Generating Units (EPA ICR No.2362.01 (OMB Control Number 2060-0631), however the information collected was not similarly comprehensive and was thus not used to update mercury assumptions in EPA 2023 Reference Case.

amount of mercury contained in the as-fired coal used by each electric utility steam generating unit with a capacity greater than 25 megawatts electric [MWe]), as well as accurate information on the total amount of coal burned by each such unit,” and (3) obtaining data by coal sampling and stack testing at selected units to characterize mercury reductions from representative unit configurations.

The ICR resulted in more than 40,000 data points indicating the coal type, sulfur content, mercury content, and other characteristics of coal burned at coal-fired utility units greater than 25 MW. To make this data usable, these data points were first grouped by IPM coal types and IPM coal supply regions. IPM coal types divide bituminous, subbituminous, and lignite coal into different grades based on sulfur content.

Oil, natural gas, and waste fuels

Assumptions pertaining to the mercury content for oil, gas, and waste fuels are based on data derived from previous EPA analyses of mercury emissions from power plants.⁵⁰ Table 5-8 provides a summary of the assumptions on the mercury content for oil, gas, and waste fuels.

Table 5-8 Mercury Concentration Assumptions for Non-Coal Fuels in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Fuel Type | Mercury Concentration (lbs/TBtu) |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Oil | 0.48 |
| Natural Gas | 0.00 ^a |
| Petroleum Coke | 2.66 |
| Biomass | 0.57 |
| Municipal Solid Waste | 71.85 |
| Geothermal Resource | 2.97 - 3.7 |

Note:

^a The values appearing in this table are rounded to two decimal places. The zero-value shown for natural gas is based on an EPA study that found a mercury content of 0.000138 lbs/TBtu. Values for geothermal resources represent a range.

5.4.2 Mercury Emission Modification Factors

Emission Modification Factors (EMFs) represent the mercury reductions attributable to the specific burner type and configuration of SO₂, NO_x, and particulate matter control devices at an electric generating unit. An EMF is the ratio of outlet mercury concentration to inlet mercury concentration, and depends on the unit’s burner type, particulate control device, post-combustion NO_x control and SO₂ scrubber control. In other words, the mercury reduction achieved (relative to the inlet) during combustion and flue-gas treatment process is (1-EMF), such that the lower the EMF, the greater the mercury reduction. If the EMF is 0.25, then 25% of the inlet mercury concentration is emitted as outlet mercury concentration, and therefore the unit has achieved a 75% reduction in mercury that would otherwise be emitted without the properties influencing the EMF. The EMF varies by the type of coal (i.e., bituminous, subbituminous, and lignite) used during the combustion process.

Deriving EMFs involves obtaining mercury inlet data by coal sampling and mercury emission data by stack testing at a representative set of coal units. As noted, EPA’s EMFs were initially based on 1999 mercury ICR emission test data. More recent testing conducted by the EPA, DOE, and industry participants⁵¹ has provided a better understanding of mercury emissions from electric generating units and mercury capture in pollution control devices. Overall, the 1999 ICR data revealed higher levels of mercury capture for bituminous coal-fired plants than for subbituminous and lignite coal-fired plants, and

⁵⁰ Analysis of Emission Reduction Options for the Electric Power Industry, Office of Air and Radiation, U.S. EPA, March 1999.

⁵¹ For a detailed summary of emissions test data see Control of Emissions from Coal-Fired Electric Utility Boilers: An Update, EPA/Office of Research and Development, February 2005. The report can be found at https://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si_public_record_report.cfm?Lab=NRML&dirEntryId=219113.

significant capture of ionic Hg in wet-FGD scrubbers. Additional mercury testing indicates that for bituminous coals, SCR systems can convert elemental Hg into ionic Hg and thus allow easier capture in a downstream wet-FGD scrubber. This understanding of mercury capture with SCRs is incorporated in EPA 2023 Reference Case mercury EMFs for unit configurations with SCR and wet scrubbers.

Table 5-9 provides a summary of EMFs used in EPA 2023 Reference Case. Table 5-10 provides definitions of acronyms for existing controls that appear in Table 5-9. Table 5-11 provides a key to the burner type designations appearing in Table 5-9.

Table 5-9 Mercury Emission Modification Factors Used in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Burner Type | Particulate Control | Post-combustion Control - NO _x | Post-combustion Control - SO ₂ | Bituminous EMF | Subbituminous EMF* | Lignite EMF |
|-------------|--------------------------|---|---|----------------|--------------------|-------------|
| FBC | Cold Side ESP | No SCR | None | 0.65 | 0.1 | 0.62 |
| FBC | Cold Side ESP | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| FBC | Cold Side ESP + FF | No SCR | None | 0.05 | 0.1 | 0.43 |
| FBC | Cold Side ESP + FF | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| FBC | Fabric Filter | No SCR | None | 0.05 | 0.1 | 0.43 |
| FBC | Fabric Filter | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 0.43 |
| FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC | No SCR | None | 1 | 0.1 | 1 |
| FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1 |
| FBC | No Control | No SCR | None | 1 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP | SCR | None | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP | No SCR | None | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FF | SCR | None | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FF | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FF | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FF | No SCR | None | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FF | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FF | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC | SCR | None | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC | No SCR | None | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.64 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC + FF | SCR | None | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC + FF | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC + FF | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC + FF | No SCR | None | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC + FF | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Cold Side ESP + FGC + FF | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Fabric Filter | SCR | None | 0.11 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Fabric Filter | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Fabric Filter | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Fabric Filter | No SCR | None | 0.11 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Fabric Filter | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Fabric Filter | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP | SCR | None | 0.9 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP | No SCR | None | 0.9 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |

| Burner Type | Particulate Control | Post-combustion Control - NO _x | Post-combustion Control - SO ₂ | Bituminous EMF | Subbituminous EMF* | Lignite EMF |
|-------------|-------------------------|---|---|----------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FF | SCR | None | 0.11 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FF | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FF | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FF | No SCR | None | 0.11 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FF | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.03 | 0.1 | 0.56 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FF | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC | SCR | None | 0.9 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC | No SCR | None | 0.9 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC + FF | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC + FF | No SCR | None | 0.11 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | Hot Side ESP + FGC + FF | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.05 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | No Control | SCR | None | 1 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | No Control | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | No Control | SCR | Dry FGD | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | No Control | No SCR | None | 1 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | No Control | No SCR | Wet FGD | 0.58 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | No Control | No SCR | Dry FGD | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | PM Scrubber | SCR | None | 0.9 | 0.1 | 1 |
| Non FBC | PM Scrubber | SCR | Wet FGD | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1 |

Note: 2017 annual emissions data suggests that, with subbituminous coal, many configurations are now achieving at least 90% removal of mercury. This table was updated from previous versions to reflect this recent observation. For 2017 emissions data, see: <https://ampd.epa.gov>.

Table 5-10 Definition of Acronyms for Existing Controls

| Acronym | Description |
|---------|--|
| ESP | Electrostatic Precipitator - Cold Side |
| HESP | Electrostatic Precipitator - Hot Side |
| ESP/O | Electrostatic Precipitator - Other |
| FF | Fabric Filter |
| FGD | Flue Gas Desulfurization - Wet |
| DS | Flue Gas Desulfurization - Dry |
| SCR | Selective Catalytic Reduction |
| PMSCRUB | Particulate Matter Scrubber |

Table 5-11 Key to Burner Type Designations in Table 5-9

“**PC**” refers to conventional pulverized coal boilers. Typical configurations include wall-fired and tangentially fired boilers (also called T-fired boilers). In wall-fired boilers the burner’s coal and air nozzles are mounted on a single wall or opposing walls. In tangentially fired boilers the burner’s coal and air nozzles are mounted in each corner of the boiler.

“**Cyclone**” refers to cyclone boilers where air and crushed coal are injected tangentially into the boiler through a “cyclone burner” and “cyclone barrel” which create a swirling motion allowing smaller coal particles to be burned in suspension and larger coal particles to be captured on the cyclone barrel wall where they are burned in molten slag.

“**Stoker**” refers to stoker boilers where lump coal is fed continuously onto a moving grate or chain, which moves the coal into the combustion zone in which air is drawn through the grate and ignition takes place. The carbon gradually burns off, leaving ash which drops off at the end into a receptacle, from which it is removed for disposal.

“**FBC**” refers to “fluidized bed combustion” where solid fuels are suspended on upward-blowing jets of air, resulting in a turbulent mixing of gas and solids and a tumbling action which provides especially effective chemical reactions and heat transfer during the combustion process.

“**Other**” refers to miscellaneous burner types including cell burners and arch, roof, and vertically-fired burner configurations.

5.4.3 Mercury Control Capabilities

EPA 2023 Reference Case offers two options for mercury pollution control: (1) combinations of SO₂, NO_x, and particulate controls which deliver mercury reductions as a co-benefit; and (2) Activated Carbon Injection (ACI), a retrofit option specifically designed for mercury control. The options are discussed below.

Mercury Control through SO₂ and NO_x Retrofits

Units that install SO₂, NO_x, and particulate controls reduce mercury emissions as a byproduct of these retrofits. Section 5.4.2 described how EMFs are used to capture mercury emissions depending on the rank of coal burned, the generating unit’s combustion characteristics, and the specific configuration of SO₂, NO_x, and particulate controls (i.e., hot and cold-side electrostatic precipitators (ESPs), fabric filters (also called “baghouses”), and particulate matter (PM) scrubbers).

Activated Carbon Injection (ACI)

The technology used for mercury control in EPA 2023 Reference Case is Activated Carbon Injection (ACI) downstream of the combustion process in coal-fired units. Sargent & Lundy’s updated cost and performance assumptions for ACI are used (and are described further below).

Three alternative ACI options are represented as capable of providing 90% mercury removal for all possible configurations of boiler, emission controls, and coal types used in the U.S. electric power sector. The three ACI options differ based on whether they are used in conjunction with an electrostatic precipitator (ESP) or a fabric filter (also called a baghouse). The three ACI options are:

- ACI with Existing ESP
- ACI with Existing Baghouse
- ACI with an Additional Baghouse (also referred to as Toxecon)

In the third option listed above, the additional baghouse is installed downstream of the preexisting particulate matter device, and the activated carbon is injected after the existing controls. This configuration allows the fly ash to be removed before it is contaminated by mercury.

For modeling purposes, EPA assumes that all three configurations use brominated ACI, where a small amount of bromine is chemically bonded to the powdered carbon, which is injected into the flue gas stream. EPA recognizes that amended silicates and possibly other non-carbon, non-brominated substances are in development and may become available as alternatives to brominated carbon as a mercury sorbent.

The applicable ACI option depends on the coal type burned, its SO₂ content, the boiler, and particulate control type, and, in some instances, consideration of whether an SO₂ scrubber (FGD) system and SCR NO_x post-combustion control are present. Table 5-12 shows the ACI assignment scheme used to achieve 90% mercury removal. EPA 2023 Reference Case does not explicitly model ACI retrofit options.

Table 5-12 Assignment Scheme for Mercury Emissions Control Using Activated Carbon Injection in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Air pollution controls | | | | Bituminous Coal | | | Subbituminous Coal | | | Lignite Coal | | |
|------------------------|---|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Burner Type | Particulate Control Type | SCR System | FGD System | ACI Required? | Toxecon Required? | Sorbent Inj Rate (lb/million acfm) | ACI Required? | Toxecon Required? | Sorbent Inj Rate (lb/million acfm) | ACI Required? | Toxecon Required? | Sorbent Inj Rate (lb/million acfm) |
| FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | -- | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| FBC | Cold Side ESP without FGC | -- | -- | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 |
| FBC | Fabric Filter | -- | Dry FGD | No | No | 0 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| FBC | Fabric Filter | -- | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| FBC | Hot Side ESP with FGC | -- | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | -- | Dry FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | -- | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | SCR | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | -- | Dry FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | -- | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | SCR | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP with FGC | -- | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP with FGC | -- | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP with FGC | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP with FGC | SCR | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP with FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP with FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP without FGC | -- | -- | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP without FGC | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP without FGC | SCR | -- | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP without FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 |
| Non-FBC | Cold Side ESP without FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 | Yes | No | 5 |
| Non-FBC | Fabric Filter | -- | Dry FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Fabric Filter | -- | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Fabric Filter | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Fabric Filter | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Fabric Filter | SCR | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Fabric Filter | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | -- | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | -- | Dry FGD | No | No | 0 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | No | No | 0 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter with FGC | SCR | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | -- | Dry FGD | No | No | 0 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | -- | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | No | No | 0 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | SCR | -- | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |

| Air pollution controls | | | | Bituminous Coal | | | Subbituminous Coal | | | Lignite Coal | | |
|------------------------|--|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Burner Type | Particulate Control Type | SCR System | FGD System | ACI Required? | Toxecon Required? | Sorbent Inj Rate (lb/million acfm) | ACI Required? | Toxecon Required? | Sorbent Inj Rate (lb/million acfm) | ACI Required? | Toxecon Required? | Sorbent Inj Rate (lb/million acfm) |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP + Fabric Filter without FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 | Yes | No | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP with FGC | -- | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP with FGC | -- | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP with FGC | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP with FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP with FGC | SCR | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP with FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP without FGC | -- | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP without FGC | -- | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP without FGC | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP without FGC | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP without FGC | SCR | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | Hot Side ESP without FGC | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | No Control | -- | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | No Control | -- | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | No Control | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | No Control | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | No Control | SCR | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | No Control | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | PM Scrubber | -- | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | PM Scrubber | -- | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | PM Scrubber | -- | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | PM Scrubber | SCR | Dry FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | PM Scrubber | SCR | -- | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |
| Non-FBC | PM Scrubber | SCR | Wet FGD | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes | Yes | 2 |

Note: In the table above "Toxecon" refers to the option described as "ACI System with an Additional Baghouse" and "ACI + Full Baghouse with a Sorbent Injection (Inj) Rate of 2 lbs/million acfm" elsewhere in this chapter.

5.4.4 Methodology for Obtaining ACI Control Costs

The ACI model developed by Sargent & Lundy in 2017 assumes that the carbon feed rate dictates the size of the equipment and resulting costs. The feed rate, in turn, is a function of the required removal (in this case 90%) and the type of particulate control device. The model assumes a carbon feed rate of 5 pounds of carbon injected for every 1,000,000 actual cubic feet per minute (acfm) of flue gas would provide the stipulated 90% mercury removal rate for units shown in Table 5-13 as qualifying for ACI systems with existing ESP. For generating units with fabric filters, a lower injection rate of 2 pounds per million acfm is required. Alternative sets of costs were developed for each of the three ACI options: ACI systems for units with existing ESPs, ACI for units with existing fabric filters (baghouses), and the combined cost of ACI plus an additional baghouse for units that either have no existing particulate control or that require ACI plus a baghouse in addition to their existing particulate control. There are various reasons that a combined ACI plus additional baghouse would be required. These include situations where the existing ESP cannot handle the additional particulate load associated with the ACI or where SO₃ injection is currently in use to condition the flue gas for the ESP. Another cause for combined ACI and baghouse is the use of PRB coal, whose combustion produces mostly elemental mercury, not ionic mercury, due to this coal's low chlorine content.

For the combined ACI and fabric filter option, a full-size baghouse with an air-to-cloth (A/C) ratio of 4.0 is assumed, as opposed to a polishing baghouse with a 6.0 A/C ratio.⁵²

Table 5-13 presents the capital, fixed O&M, and variable O&M costs as well as the capacity and heat rate penalties for the three ACI options represented in EPA 2023 Reference Case. For each ACI option, values are shown for an illustrative set of generating units with a representative range of capacities and heat rates. For details of Sargent & Lundy ACI cost model, see Attachment 5-8.

5.5 Hydrogen Chloride (HCl) Control Technologies

The following subsections describe how HCl emissions from coal are represented, the emission control technologies available for HCl removal, and the cost and performance characteristics of these technologies in EPA 2023 Reference Case.

5.5.1 Chlorine Content of Fuels

HCl emissions from the power sector result from the chlorine content of the coal that is combusted by electric generating units. Data on the chlorine content of coals had been collected as part of EPA's 1999 "Information Collection Request for Electric Utility Steam Generating Unit Mercury Emissions Information Collection Effort" (ICR 1999) described above in section 5.4.1. This data is incorporated into the model to provide the capability for EPA 2023 Reference Case to project HCl emissions. The procedures used for this are presented below.

Western subbituminous coal (such as that mined in the Powder River Basin) and lignite coal contain natural alkalinity in the form of non-glassy calcium oxide (CaO) and other alkaline and alkaline earth oxides. This fly ash (classified as 'Class C' fly ash) has a natural pH of 9 and higher, and the natural alkalinity can effectively neutralize much of the HCl in the flue gas stream prior to the primary control device.

⁵² The air-to-cloth (A/C) ratio is the volumetric flow, (typically expressed in Actual Cubic Feet per Minute, ACFM) of flue gas entering the baghouse divided by the areas (typically in square feet) of fabric filter cloth in the baghouse. The lower the A/C ratio, e.g., A/C = 4.0 compared to A/C = 6.0, the greater area of the cloth required and the higher the cost for a given volumetric flow.

Table 5-13 Illustrative Activated Carbon Injection (ACI) Costs (2022\$) for Representative Sizes and Heat Rates under the Assumptions in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Control Type | Heat Rate (Btu/kWh) | Capacity Penalty (%) | Heat Rate Penalty (%) | Variable O&M cost (mills/kWh) | Capacity (MW) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | 100 | | 300 | | 500 | | 700 | | 1000 | |
| | | | | | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) |
| ACI System with an Existing ESP ACI with a Sorbent Injection Rate of 5 lbs/million acfm assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | -0.02 | 0.02 | 2.67 | 48.23 | 0.39 | 18.96 | 0.15 | 12.29 | 0.10 | 9.23 | 0.08 | 6.82 | 0.06 |
| | 10,000 | -0.02 | 0.02 | 2.97 | 49.02 | 0.40 | 19.27 | 0.16 | 12.48 | 0.10 | 9.38 | 0.08 | 6.92 | 0.06 |
| | 11,000 | -0.02 | 0.02 | 3.26 | 49.72 | 0.40 | 19.54 | 0.16 | 12.66 | 0.10 | 9.51 | 0.08 | 7.02 | 0.06 |
| ACI System with an Existing Baghouse ACI with a Sorbent Injection Rate of 2 lbs/million acfm Assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | -0.02 | 0.02 | 1.91 | 42.04 | 0.34 | 16.54 | 0.14 | 10.70 | 0.09 | 8.04 | 0.07 | 5.93 | 0.05 |
| | 10,000 | -0.02 | 0.02 | 2.13 | 42.72 | 0.34 | 16.78 | 0.14 | 10.87 | 0.09 | 8.17 | 0.07 | 6.04 | 0.05 |
| | 11,000 | -0.02 | 0.02 | 2.34 | 43.34 | 0.35 | 17.03 | 0.14 | 11.03 | 0.09 | 8.29 | 0.07 | 6.12 | 0.05 |
| ACI System with an Additional Baghouse ACI + Full Baghouse with a Sorbent Injection Rate of 2 lbs/million acfm Assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | -0.62 | 0.62 | 0.57 | 355.54 | 1.25 | 268.23 | 0.94 | 238.47 | 0.84 | 221.39 | 0.77 | 205.06 | 0.71 |
| | 10,000 | -0.62 | 0.62 | 0.63 | 383.66 | 1.34 | 290.72 | 1.02 | 258.80 | 0.91 | 240.43 | 0.84 | 222.83 | 0.78 |
| | 11,000 | -0.62 | 0.62 | 0.70 | 411.23 | 1.44 | 312.79 | 1.10 | 278.75 | 0.97 | 259.10 | 0.91 | 240.24 | 0.84 |

Note 1: The above cost estimates assume bituminous coal consumption.

Note 2: The Variable O&M costs in this table do not include the cost of additional auxiliary power (VOMP) component in the Sargent & Lundy cost models. For modeling purposes, IPM reflects the auxiliary power consumption through capacity penalty.

Eastern bituminous coals, by contrast, tend to produce fly ash with lower natural alkalinity. Though bituminous fly ash (classified as 'Class F' fly ash) may contain calcium, it tends to be present in a glassy matrix and unavailable for acid-base neutralization reactions.

To assess the extent of expected natural neutralization, resulting in large part from the alkalinity of the fly ash, the 2010 ICR⁵³ data was examined. According to that data, units burning some of the subbituminous coals without operating acid gas control technology emitted substantially lower HCl than would otherwise be expected if the emissions were based solely on the chlorine content of those coals. Comparing the assumed chlorine content of the subbituminous coals modeled in EPA 2023 Reference Case with the estimated values based on responses to the 2010 ICR supports the EPA 2023 Reference Case assumption that combustion of subbituminous and lignite coals results in a 95% reduction in HCl emissions relative to the assumed chlorine content of the coal.

5.5.2 HCl Removal Rate Assumptions for Existing and Potential Units

SO₂ emission controls on existing and new (potential) units provide the HCl reductions indicated in Table 5-14. New supercritical pulverized coal units (column 3) that the model builds include FGD (wet or dry), which is assumed to provide a 99% removal rate for HCl. For existing conventional pulverized coal units with pre-existing FGD (column 5), the HCl removal rate is assumed to be 5% higher than the reported SO₂ removal rate up to a maximum of 99% removal. In addition, for fluidized bed combustion units (column 4) with no FGD and no fabric filter, the HCl removal rate is assumed to be the same as the SO₂ removal rate up to a maximum of 95%. FBCs with fabric filters are assumed to have an HCl removal rate of 95%.

Table 5-14 HCl Removal Rate Assumptions for Potential (New) and Existing Units in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| | | Potential (New) | Existing Units with FGD | |
|-----|--------------|--|--|---|
| Gas | Controls ==> | Ultra-Supercritical Pulverized Coal with 30%/90% CCS | Fluidized Bed Combustion (FBC) | Conventional Pulverized Coal (CPC) with Wet or Dry FGD |
| HCl | Removal Rate | 99% | <p>Without fabric filter: Same as reported SO₂ removal rate up to a maximum of 95% ---</p> <p>With fabric filter: 95%</p> | Reported SO ₂ removal rate + 5% up to a maximum of 99% |

5.5.3 HCl Retrofit Emission Control Options

The retrofit options for HCl emission control are discussed in detail in the following sub-sections and summarized in Table 5-15.

Wet and Dry FGD

In addition to providing SO₂ reductions, wet scrubbers (Limestone Forced Oxidation, LSFO) and dry scrubbers (Lime Spray Dryer, LSD) reduce HCl as well. For both LSFO and LSD the HCl removal rate is assumed to be 99% with a floor of 0.001 lbs/MMBtu. This is summarized in columns 2-5 of Table 5-15.

⁵³ Collection Effort for New and Existing Coal- and Oil-Fired Electricity Utility Steam Generating Units (EPA ICR No.2362.01 (OMB Control Number 2060-0631))

Table 5-15 Retrofit HCl and SO₂ Emission Control Performance Assumptions in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Performance Assumptions | Limestone Forced Oxidation (LSFO) | | Lime Spray Dryer (LSD) | | Dry Sorbent Injection (DSI) | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | SO ₂ | HCl | SO ₂ | HCl | SO ₂ | HCl |
| Percent Removal | 98% with a floor of 0.06 lbs/MMBtu | 99% with a floor of 0.001 lbs/MMBtu | 95% with a floor of 0.08 lbs/MMBtu | 99% with a floor of 0.001 lbs/MMBtu | 50% | 98% with a floor of 0.001 lbs/MMBtu |
| Capacity Penalty | Calculated based on characteristics of the unit: See Table 5-3 | | Calculated based on characteristics of the unit: See Table 5-3 | | Calculated based on characteristics of the unit: See Table 5-16 | |
| Heat Rate Penalty | | | | | | |
| Cost (2022\$) | | | | | | |
| Applicability | Units ≥ 100 MW | | Units ≥ 100 MW | | Units ≥ 25 MW | |
| Sulfur Content Applicability | | | Coals ≤ 3 lbs of SO ₂ /MMBtu | | Coals ≤ 2.0 lbs of SO ₂ /MMBtu | |
| Applicable Coal Types | BA, BB, BD, BE, BG, BH, SA, SB, SD, SE, LD, LE, LG, LH, PK and WC | | BA, BB, BD, BE, SA, SB, SD, SE, LD, and LE | | BA, BB, BD, SA, SB, SD, and LD | |

Dry Sorbent Injection

EPA 2023 Reference Case includes dry sorbent injection (DSI) as a retrofit option for achieving (in combination with a particulate control device) both SO₂ and HCl removal. In DSI for HCl reduction, a dry sorbent is injected into the flue gas duct, where it reacts with the HCl and SO₂ in the flue gas to form compounds that are then captured in a downstream fabric filter or electrostatic precipitator (ESP) and disposed of as waste. A sorbent is a material that takes up another substance by either adsorption on its surface or absorption internally or in solution. A sorbent may also chemically react with another substance. The sorbent assumed in the cost and performance characterization discussed in this section is Trona (sodium sesquicarbonate), a sodium-rich material with major underground deposits found in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. Trona is typically delivered with an average particle size of 30 μm diameter but can be reduced to about 15 μm through onsite in-line milling to increase its surface area and capture capability. While the Sargent & Lundy description of the DSI technology includes references to the hydrated lime option, only the Trona option is implemented in EPA 2023 Reference Case.

Removal rate assumptions: The removal rate assumptions for DSI are summarized in Table 5-15. The assumptions shown in the last two columns of Table 5-15 were derived from assessments by EPA engineering staff in consultation with Sargent & Lundy. As indicated in this table, the assumed SO₂ removal rate for DSI + fabric filter is 50%. The retrofit DSI option on an existing unit with existing ESP is always provided in combination with a fabric filter (Toxecon configuration).

Methodology for Obtaining DSI Control Costs: The cost and performance model for DSI was updated by Sargent & Lundy. The model is used to derive the cost of DSI retrofits with two alternatives, associated particulate control devices, i.e., ESP and fabric filter. The cost model notes that the cost drivers of DSI are quite different from those of wet or dry FGD. Whereas plant size and coal sulfur rates are key underlying determinants of FGD cost, sorbent feed rate and fly ash waste handling are the main drivers of the capital cost of DSI, with plant size and coal sulfur rates playing a secondary role.

Furthermore, the DSI sorbent feed rate and variable O&M costs are based on assumptions that a fabric filter and in-line Trona milling are used, and that the SO₂ removal rate is 50%. The corresponding HCl removal effect is estimated to be 98% for units with fabric filter.

The cost of fly ash waste handling, which is the other key contributor to DSI cost, is a function of the type of particulate capture device and the flue gas SO₂.

Total waste production involves the production of both reacted and unreacted sorbent and fly ash. Sorbent waste is a function of the sorbent feed rate with an adjustment for excess sorbent feed. The use of sodium-based DSI may make the fly ash unsalable, which would mean that any fly ash produced must be landfilled along with the reacted and unreacted sorbent waste. Typical ash contents for each fuel are used to calculate the total fly ash production rate. The fly ash production is added to the sorbent waste to account for the total waste stream for the variable O&M analysis.

For purposes of modeling, the total variable O&M includes the first two component costs noted in the previous paragraph, i.e., the costs for sorbent usage and the costs associated with waste production and disposal.

Table 5-16 presents the capital, fixed O&M, and variable O&M costs, as well as the capacity and heat rate penalties of a DSI retrofit for an illustrative and representative set of generating units with the indicated capacities and heat rates. For details of the Sargent & Lundy DSI cost model, see Attachment 5-7.

5.6 Fabric Filter (Baghouse) Cost Development

Fabric filters are not endogenously modeled as a separate retrofit option. In EPA 2023 Reference Case, an existing or new fabric filter particulate control device is a pre-condition for installing a DSI retrofit, and the cost of these retrofits at plants without an existing fabric filter includes the cost of installing a new fabric filter. This cost was added to the DSI costs discussed in section 5.5. The costs associated with a new fabric filter retrofit are derived from the cost and performance updated by Sargent & Lundy. Similarly, dry scrubber retrofit costs also include the cost of a fabric filter.

The engineering cost analysis is based on a pulse-jet fabric filter which collects particulate matter on a fabric bag and uses air pulses to dislodge the particulate from the bag surface and collect it in hoppers for removal via an ash handling system to a silo. This is a mature technology that has been operating commercially for more than 25 years. “Baghouse” and “fabric filters” are used interchangeably to refer to such installations.

Capital Cost: The major driver of fabric filter capital cost is the air-to-cloth (A/C) ratio. The A/C ratio is defined as the volumetric flow (typically expressed in Actual Cubic Feet per Minute, ACFM) of flue gas entering the baghouse divided by the areas (typically in square feet) of fabric filter cloth in the baghouse. The lower the A/C ratio, e.g., A/C = 4.0 compared to A/C = 6.0, the greater the area of the cloth required and the higher the cost for a given volumetric flow. An A/C ratio of 4.0 is used in the EPA 2023 Reference Case, and it is assumed that the existing ESP remains in place and active.

Table 5-17 presents the capital, fixed O&M, and variable O&M costs for fabric filters as represented in EPA 2023 Reference Case for an illustrative set of generating units with a representative range of capacities and heat rates. See Attachments 5-9a and 5-9b for details of the Sargent & Lundy fabric filter PM control cost model.

Table 5-16 Illustrative Dry Sorbent Injection (DSI) Costs (2022\$) for Representative Sizes and Heat Rates in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Control Type | Heat Rate (Btu/kWh) | SO ₂ Rate (lb/MMBtu) | Capacity Penalty (%) | Heat Rate Penalty (%) | Variable O&M (mills/kWh) | Capacity (MW) | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | | 100 | | 300 | | 500 | | 700 | | 1000 | |
| | | | | | | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) |
| DSI Assuming Bituminous Coal | 9,000 | 2.0 | -0.94 | 0.95 | 12.08 | 166.0 | 3.93 | 83.8 | 1.54 | 61.0 | 1.01 | 58.8 | 0.84 | 58.8 | 0.73 |
| | 10,000 | 2.0 | -1.05 | 1.06 | 13.43 | 173.0 | 3.99 | 87.3 | 1.57 | 65.5 | 1.05 | 65.5 | 0.90 | 65.5 | 0.79 |
| | 11,000 | 2.0 | -1.15 | 1.17 | 14.79 | 179.5 | 4.04 | 90.6 | 1.59 | 72.1 | 1.10 | 72.1 | 0.95 | 72.1 | 0.84 |

Note 1: A SO₂ removal efficiency of 50% is assumed in the above calculations.

Note: The Variable O&M costs in this table do not include the cost of additional auxiliary power (VOMP) component in the Sargent & Lundy cost models. For modeling purposes, IPM reflects the auxiliary power consumption through capacity penalty.

Table 5-17 Illustrative Particulate Controls Costs (2022\$) for Representative Sizes and Heat Rates in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Coal Type | Heat Rate (Btu/kWh) | Capacity Penalty (%) | Heat Rate Penalty (%) | Variable O&M (mills/kWh) | Capacity (MW) | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | 100 | | 300 | | 500 | | 700 | | 1000 | |
| | | | | | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) | Capital Cost (\$/kW) | Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr) |
| Bituminous | 9,000 | -0.60 | 0.60 | 2.43 | 305.09 | 1.07 | 247.6 | 0.9 | 224.73 | 0.79 | 210.81 | 0.74 | 197.00 | 0.69 |
| | 10,000 | | | 332.32 | 1.16 | 269.7 | 0.9 | 244.75 | 0.86 | 229.59 | 0.80 | 214.55 | 0.75 | |
| | 11,000 | | | 358.97 | 1.26 | 291.3 | 1.0 | 264.39 | 0.92 | 248.02 | 0.87 | 231.77 | 0.81 | |

Note: The Variable O&M costs in this table do not include the cost of additional auxiliary power (VOMP) component in the Sargent & Lundy cost models. For modeling purposes, IPM reflects the auxiliary power consumption through capacity penalty.

5.7 Coal-to-Gas Conversions⁵⁴

In EPA 2023 Reference Case, existing coal plants are given the option to burn natural gas by investing in a coal-to-gas retrofit. There are two components of cost in this option: boiler modification costs and the cost of extending natural gas lateral pipeline spurs from the boiler to a natural gas main pipeline. These two components of cost and their associated performance implications are discussed in the following sections.

5.7.1 Boiler Modifications for Coal-To-Gas Conversions

Enabling natural gas firing in a coal boiler typically involves the installation of new gas burners and modifications to the ducting, wind box (i.e., the chamber surrounding a burner through which pressurized air is supplied for fuel combustion), and possibly to the heating surfaces used to transfer energy from the exiting hot flue gas to steam (referred to as the convection pass). It may also involve modification of environmental equipment. Engineering studies are performed to assess operating characteristics like furnace heat absorption and exit gas temperature; material changes affecting piping and components like superheaters, reheaters, economizers, and recirculating fans; and operational changes to soot blowers, spray flows, air heaters, and emission controls.

The following table summarizes the cost and performance assumptions for coal-to-gas boiler modifications as incorporated in EPA 2023 Reference Case. The values in the table were developed by EPA's engineering staff based on technical papers⁵⁵ and discussions with industry engineers familiar with such projects. They were designed to be broadly applicable across the existing coal fleet (with the exceptions noted in the table). Coal-to-gas retrofit options in EPA 2023 Reference Case force a permanent change in fuel type from coal to natural gas. Coal, therefore, can no longer be fired.

Table 5-18 Cost and Performance Assumptions for Coal-to-Gas Retrofits in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Factor | Description | Notes |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Applicability: | Existing pulverized coal (PC) fired and cyclone boiler units of a size greater than 25 MW: | Not applicable for fluidized bed combustion (FBC) and stoker boilers. |
| Capacity Penalty: | None | The furnace of a boiler designed to burn coal is oversized for natural gas, and coal boilers include equipment, such as coal mills, that are not needed for gas. As a result, burning gas should have no impact on net power output. |
| Heat Rate Penalty: | 5% | When gas is combusted instead of coal, the stack temperature is lower and the moisture loss to stack is higher. This reduces efficiency, which is reflected in an increase in the heat rate. |
| Incremental Capital Cost: | PC units: (2022\$)/kW = 484.74*(75/MW) ^{0.35} Cyclone units: (2022\$)/kW = 346.24*(75/MW) ^{0.35} | The cost function covers new gas burners and piping, windbox modifications, air heater upgrades, gas recirculating fans, and control system modifications. <u>Example for 50 MW PC unit:</u> \$/kW = 484.74*(75/50) ^{0.35} = 558.65 |
| Incremental Fixed O&M: | -33% FOM cost of the existing coal unit | Due to reduced needs for operators, maintenance materials, and maintenance staff when natural gas combusted, FOM costs decrease by 33%. |

⁵⁴ As discussed here coal-to-gas conversion refers to the modification of an existing boiler to allow it to fire natural gas. It does not refer to the addition of a gas turbine to an existing boiler cycle, the replacement of a coal boiler with a new natural gas combined cycle plant, or to the gasification of coal for use in a natural gas combustion turbine.

⁵⁵ For an example see Babcock and Wilcox's White Paper MS-14 "Natural Gas Conversions of Existing Coal-Fired Boilers" 2010 (<https://slidex.tips/download/natural-gas-conversions-of-existing-coal-fired-boilers>).

| Factor | Description | Notes |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Incremental Variable O&M: | -25% VOM cost of the existing coal unit | Due to reduced waste disposal and miscellaneous other costs, VOM costs decrease by 25%. |
| Fuel Cost: | Natural Gas | To obtain natural gas the unit incurs the cost of extending lateral pipeline spurs from the boiler to the local transmission mainline. See Section 5.7.2. |
| NO _x emission rate: | 50% of existing coal unit NO _x emission rate, with a floor of 0.05 lbs/MMBtu | The 0.05 lbs/MMBtu floor is the same as the NO _x rate floor for new retrofit SCR on units burning subbituminous coal. |
| SO ₂ emissions: | Zero | |

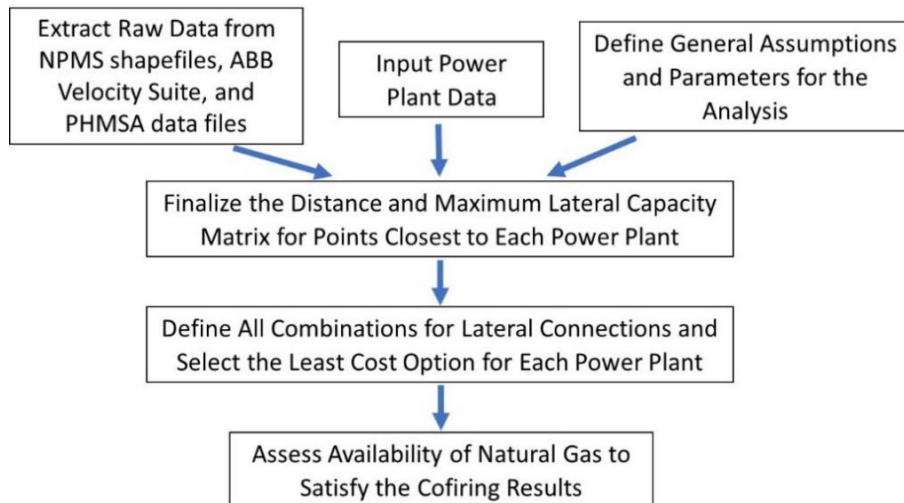
5.7.2 Natural Gas Pipeline Requirements for Coal-To-Gas Conversions

For every individual coal facility in the U.S., the distance and associated cost of constructing pipeline laterals from each facility to the interstate natural gas pipeline system was determined. Table 5-22 shows the pipeline costing results for each qualifying existing coal-fired unit in EPA 2023 Reference Case.

The lateral costs represent the minimum cost to connect coal power plants to the closest pipelines so that the plants can use natural gas. The estimated costs include both the cost for the lateral based on its mileage and size and the compression needed to support the movement of incremental gas needed for cofiring. They do not, however, include costs for mainline transport beyond those represented by the gas basis in EPA 2023 Reference Case. Thus, it is implicit that all gas needed to fire the plants would be purchased on a spot basis, and mainline expansion will not be needed to support the transport of incremental gas associated with cofiring beyond the amounts included in the EPA Base Case. This assumption will hold so long as the gas needed to support coal-to-gas conversion is not overly concentrated at specific locations during specific times of the year on gas pipeline systems in those areas are being highly utilized.

The process for estimating the lateral costs is shown in Figure 5-1 below. A general description of the process follows.

Figure 5-1 Process for Lateral Cost Estimation



First, the raw data for pipelines is extracted from *National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS)* shapefiles that contain maps of pipelines throughout the United States, published by the *U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)*. The NPMS shapefiles contain thousands of data points that are used to digitally map over 300 pipelines across the U.S. The NPMS shapefiles are preprocessed along with ABB Velocity Suite data provided by Hitachi Energy and

with data from the PHMSA Natural and Other Gas Transmission and Gathering Pipeline Systems Annual Report Part H database to provide pipeline distance and diameter information. This initial step of the process extracts the necessary raw data from the three different data sets, including the pipeline ID, location, and diameter of the closest 50 points to each power plant.

The second step defines the necessary data for each power plant considered in the analysis. The most relevant data includes the location, size, and heat rate of the power plant, the amount of gas needed by the plant for converting to natural gas, and the lateral cost factor on a dollar-per-inch-mile basis.

The third step defines lateral assumptions for each plant. Broad assumptions have been made as well as direct assumptions for the configuration of laterals for each power plant included in the analysis. They include assumptions for the maximum distance that can be considered for each lateral connection and the potential offtake from each pipeline point.

Using the raw data, power plant information, and the general assumptions from steps 1, 2, and 3, the fourth step in the process finalizes the distances to and pipeline capacity of the pipelines closest to each power plant. This step of the process defines values for the matrix of mileage and lateral capacity for up to 20 laterals for each plant that are subsequently applied in the optimization analysis.

Step five sets up the matrix for all lateral options. The analysis assumes that up to two laterals may be applied for each power plant, and the capacity and costs for the lateral combinations for each power plant are defined. The matrix of lateral combinations considers both the distance and size of each lateral. Diameters from 4" to 32" in 2" increments are considered in the size matrix, yielding a total of up to 43,050 combinations of laterals that could serve each plant. This matrix includes 300 single lateral options, i.e., 15 different lateral diameters for each of the 20 potential pipeline connections, plus 42,750 2-lateral options that work through all combinations of lateral diameter and pipeline connections, applying two different laterals to serve each plant.

After the lateral option matrix has been fully populated, the option from the 43,050 combinations that satisfy a power plant's natural gas need at the lowest cost is selected.

5.8 Natural Gas Co-firing

To accommodate the prospect of converting a coal-fired power plant to co-fire both coal and natural gas, EPA makes natural gas co-firing available as a retrofit option in the EPA 2023 Reference Case. The resulting cost and performance of the conversion depend on several factors. These comprise the existing natural gas system infrastructure, required burner level modifications, combustion system configuration, and boiler performance impact. Further, several variables associated with an existing coal plant affect the expected performance impacts and required modifications due to co-firing natural gas. These include the type of coal that is currently being burned, the type of ignition/warm-up fuel that is currently being used, the OEM and type of boiler, the boiler capacity, the existence of any backend emissions equipment, and the type and number of coal burners.

The following table summarizes the cost and performance assumption of the natural gas co-firing retrofit option as incorporated in the EPA 2023 Reference Case. EPA developed the values in the table based on Sargent & Lundy's Natural Gas Co-firing Methodology, which is provided in Attachment 5-11.

Table 5-19 Cost and Performance Assumptions for Natural Gas Co-firing Retrofits in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Factor | Description |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Applicability: | Coal steam > 25 MW |
| Capacity Penalty: | None |
| Heat Rate Penalty: | 1% |

| Factor | Description |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Incremental Capital Cost (2022\$): | \$55.8 |
| Incremental Fixed O&M: | None |
| Incremental Variable O&M: | None |
| Fuel Cost: | Natural Gas |
| NO _x Emission: | Adjust all NO _x rate modes to the lower of 0.15 lb/MMBtu or the current rate. |
| Other emissions: | All other emissions consistent with the reduction of coal. |

5.9 Retrofit Assignments

In IPM, model plants that represent existing generating units have the option of maintaining their current system configuration, retrofitting with pollution controls, or retiring. The decision to retrofit or retire is endogenous to IPM and based on the least cost approach to meeting demand subject to modeled system and operational constraints. IPM is capable of modeling retrofits and retirements at each applicable model unit at three different points in time, referred to as three stages. At each stage, a retrofit set may consist of a single retrofit (e.g., LSFO Scrubber) or pre-specified combinations of retrofits (e.g., ACI + LSFO Scrubber + SCR). In EPA 2023 Reference Case, first-stage retrofit options are provided to existing coal-steam and oil/gas steam plants. These plants, along with others such as combined cycle, combustion turbines, biomass, and nuclear plants, are also given retirement as an option in stage one. Third-stage retrofit options are offered to coal-steam plants only.

Table 5-20 presents the first stage retrofit options available by plant type. Table 5-21 presents the second and third stage retrofit options available to coal-steam plants. The cost of multiple retrofits on the same model plant, whether installed in one or multiple stages, is additive. In EPA 2023 Reference Case, projections of pollution control equipment capacity and retirements are limited to the pre-specified combinations listed in Table 5-20 and Table 5-21.

Table 5-20 First Stage Retrofit Assignment Scheme in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Plant Type | Retrofit Option 1 st Stage | Criteria |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Coal Steam | | |
| | Coal Retirement | All coal steam boilers. |
| | LSFO | Standalone LSFO retrofits are not provided. |
| | LSD | Standalone LSD retrofits are not provided. |
| | SCR | All non-FBC coal steam boilers that are 100 MW or larger and do not possess an existing SCR control option. |
| | SNCR – FBC Boilers | All non-FBC coal steam boilers that are 25 MW or larger and do not have an existing post-combustion NO _x control option |
| | SNCR – Non-FBC Boilers | All coal FBC units that are 25 MW or larger and smaller than 100 MW and do not have an existing post-combustion NO _x control option. |
| | ACI (with and without Toxecon) | All coal steam boilers that are larger than 25 MW and do not have an ACI. The actual ACI technology type will be based on the boiler's fuel and technology configuration. |
| | DSI | All non-FBC coal steam boilers without DSI or FGD, 25 MW or larger, with Fabric Filter, and burning less than 2 lbs/MMBtu SO ₂ coal. |
| | DSI + Fabric Filter | All non-FBC coal steam boilers without DSI or FGD, 25 MW or larger, without Fabric Filter, with CESP or HESP, and burning less than 2 lbs/MMBtu SO ₂ coal. |
| | CCS | All non-FBC scrubbed coal steam boilers with SCR and all FBC boilers that are 100 MW or larger. |
| | CCS + LSFO | All non-FBC unscrubbed coal steam boilers with SCR that are 100 MW or larger. |
| | NGC | All coal steam boilers that are 25 MW or larger. |

| Plant Type | Retrofit Option 1 st Stage | Criteria |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| | C2G | All cyclone and pulverized coal steam boilers that are 25 MW or larger. |
| | C2G + SCR | Individual technology restrictions are applied. |
| | ACI + DSI | |
| | ACI + DSI + Fabric Filter | |
| | SCR + DRET | |
| | SCR + C2G | |
| | SCR + CCS | |
| | SCR + CCS + LSFO | |
| | SCR + NGC | |
| | SNCR + DRET | |
| | SNCR + C2G | |
| | SNCR + CCS | |
| | SNCR + CCS + LSFO | |
| | SNCR + NGC | |
| Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle | | |
| | IGCC Retirement | All integrated gasification combined cycle units |
| Combined Cycle | | |
| | CC Retirement | All combined cycle units |
| | CO ₂ Capture and Storage | All combined cycle <u>sets</u> 100 MW or larger. |
| Combustion Turbine | | |
| | CT Retirement | All combustion turbine units |
| Nuclear | | |
| | Nuclear Retirement | All nuclear power units |
| Oil and Gas Steam | | |
| | Oil/Gas Retirement | All oil/gas steam boilers |

Table 5-21 Second and Third Stage Retrofit Assignment Schemes in the EPA 2023 Reference Case

| Plant Type | Retrofit Option 1 st Stage | Retrofit Option 2 nd Stage | Retrofit Option 3 rd Stage |
|-------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Coal Steam | | | |
| | NO _x Control Option (SCR, SNCR) | Coal-to-Gas | Oil/Gas Retirement |
| | | CO ₂ Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | Natural Gas Cofiring | Coal Retirement |
| | | Coal Retirement | None |
| | Hg Control Option (ACI) | NO _x Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | Coal-to-Gas | Oil/Gas Retirement |
| | | Coal-to-Gas + NO _x Control Option | Oil/Gas Retirement |
| | | CO ₂ Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | Natural Gas Cofiring | Coal Retirement |
| | | Coal Retirement | None |
| | | NO _x Control Option + CO ₂ Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | NO _x Control Option + Natural Gas Cofiring | Coal Retirement |
| | HCl Control Option (DSI/DSI+FF) | NO _x Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | Coal-to-Gas | Oil/Gas Retirement |
| | | Coal-to-Gas + NO _x Control Option | Oil/Gas Retirement |
| | | CO ₂ Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | Natural Gas Cofiring | Coal Retirement |
| | | Coal Retirement | None |
| | | NO _x Control Option (SCR only) + CO ₂ Control Option | Coal Retirement |

| Plant Type | Retrofit Option 1st Stage | Retrofit Option 2nd Stage | Retrofit Option 3rd Stage |
|--|--|---|---|
| | | NO _x Control Option + Natural Gas Cofiring | Coal Retirement |
| | CO ₂ Control Option (CCS) | Coal Retirement | None |
| | Coal-to-Gas (C2G) | NO _x Control Option | Oil/Gas Retirement |
| | | Oil/Gas Retirement | None |
| | Natural Gas Cofiring (NGC) | Coal Retirement | None |
| | Coal Retirement (RET) | None | None |
| | Hg Control Option ³ + HCl Control | NO _x Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | Coal-to-Gas | Oil/Gas Retirement |
| | | Coal-to-Gas + NO _x Control Option | Oil/Gas Retirement |
| | | CO ₂ Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | Natural Gas Cofiring | Coal Retirement |
| | ACI+DSE or ACI+DSF | Coal Retirement | None |
| | | NO _x Control Option + CO ₂ Control Option | Coal Retirement |
| | | NO _x Control Option + Natural Gas Cofiring | Coal Retirement |
| Combined Cycle | | | |
| | CC Retirement | None | None |
| | CO ₂ Capture and Storage | CC Retirement | None |
| Oil and Gas Steam | | | |
| | Oil/Gas Retirement | None | None |
| Combustion Turbine | | | |
| | CT Retirement | None | None |
| IGCC | | | |
| | IGCC Retirement | None | None |
| Nuclear | | | |
| | Nuclear Retirement | None | None |
| Biomass, Geothermal, Hydro, Landfill Gas, Fuel Cell, Non-Fossil Other, Fossil Other | | | |
| | Retirement | None | None |

List of tables and attachments that are directly uploaded to the web:

Table 5-22 Cost of Building Pipelines to Coal Plants in EPA 2023 Reference Case

Attachment 5-1 Wet FGD Cost Methodology

Attachment 5-2 SDA FGD Cost Methodology

Attachment 5-3 SCR Cost Methodology for Coal-Fired Boilers

Attachment 5-4 SCR Cost Methodology for Oil-Gas-Fired Boilers

Attachment 5-5 SNCR Cost Methodology for Coal-Fired Boilers

Attachment 5-6 SNCR Cost Methodology for Oil-Gas-Fired Boilers

Attachment 5-7 DSI Cost Methodology

Attachment 5-8 Hg Cost Methodology

Attachment 5-9a PM Cost Methodology

Attachment 5-9b PM Cost Methodology

Attachment 5-10 Combustion Turbine NO_x Control Technology Methodology

Attachment 5-11 Natural Gas Co-firing Methodology