**Overview and Statement from AJW, Inc. on EPA's Final Rule under Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act (Clean Power Plan)**

**WASHINGTON, Aug. 5, 2015**—AJW, Inc. issued the statement below in response to EPA’s August 3, 2015 release of the final Clean Power Plan (CPP) and Proposed Federal Implementation Plan (FIP). AJW, Inc., a public policy firm, is working with a coalition of businesses and industry leaders who have called on EPA to explicitly include third-party delivered energy efficiency (EE) in the final rule.

“We commend EPA on its unequivocal inclusion of third-party EE approaches, such as performance contracting and industrial energy efficiency, in the CPP final rule. Third-party delivered EE provides states with additional flexibility by allowing them to tap into innovative, cost-effective compliance strategies. These market-driven efficiency approaches create jobs, contribute to a cleaner energy future, and reduce unnecessary utility bills – thus cutting waste from government spending and making business more resilient and competitive. EPA’s rule recognizes that energy demand reduction delivered through these approaches comprises more than half of the nation’s total opportunity for EE savings.

We are pleased to see that the final rule clarifies that the elimination of EE as a building block in setting state targets in no way affects its eligibility as a compliance mechanism. In addition, EPA’s endorsement of market-based policy tools, such as emission trading and a national registry, will help to unleash clean energy investments. We encourage EPA to expand the crediting of early action measures to start sooner and to include all EE projects. Early action to reduce emissions will increase compliance flexibility and reduce costs.

We look forward to engaging with EPA as critical implementation materials are finalized to accelerate and optimize the opportunity for EE compliance. Members of our coalition will continue to work with states, utilities, and other stakeholders to further improve the CPP during its ongoing stakeholder process, and as the drafting of state CPP plans commence under the final rule.”

About AJW, Inc.:Founded in 2003, AJW, Inc. provides business consulting and advocacy services to help clients accelerate development and deployment of their energy and environmental technologies. AJW’s clients are nationally and internationally respected organizations including private corporations, non-profit organizations, business and industry organizations, foundations, research organizations and advocacy coalitions.

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