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S&P: EPA Emissions Rules Could Hamper Power Production Economics And Utility Credit Metrics

Many U.S. electric utilities have made significant strides in reducing or developing plans to reduce power plants' carbon emissions. However, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recently finalized rules covering existing coal plants and new natural gas plants could create financial and operational pressures for utilities relying on thermal generation resources, which might negatively affect credit metrics. Furthermore, the EPA's ongoing consideration of how to regulate emissions from existing natural gas plants adds to operational and financial uncertainty.

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