

## Updates To NEEDS v.5.14 incremental to v.5.13 based on External Engagement

March 25, 2015

This document provides a user-friendly reference to identify unit level updates made in NEEDS v.5.14.

EPA Base Case v.5.13 and NEEDS v.5.13 were released in November 2013. Since that time we have obtained comments through Notices of Data Availability (NODAs), on EPA's 2011 and 2018 air quality modeling platforms, issued in November 2013 and January 2014, respectively. In addition, we have received comments and feedback on NEEDS through our power sector modeling website at <http://www.epa.gov/powersectormodeling>.

We have reviewed and researched all comments for reliability and consistency to determine their applicability in NEEDS v.5.14 to be used as input to EPA Base Case v.5.14. The spreadsheet titled 'Updates to NEEDS' lists those comments with the following fields of information:

- Source of the comments (commenter/affiliation)
- Unit identifiers (unique ID, plant name, unit number, state)
- Data field of interest (a single unit might have more than one entry for different parameter specifications)
- Value in NEEDS v.5.13
- Suggested/updated value
- Documentation of comments (summary of the comment)
- EPA review (whether/how to revise a data parameter)
- Notes (explanation for the cases where EPA does not make a revision)

EPA has also made updates as described in 'EPA Base Case v.5.14 Using IPM Incremental Documentation' that is summarized below:

- Committed units with online year of 2015 or earlier were reviewed and updated.
- For fossil units in California that are not assigned NO<sub>x</sub> rates from 2011 ETS, default NO<sub>x</sub> rates that assume the presence of a SCR are assigned.
- Nuclear unit capacity and projected up rates are based on AEO 2014.
- Retirement related information from EPA research (in addition to above NEEDS comments) was researched, reviewed and incorporated.