

Chapter 1. Introduction

This report presents the major assumptions of the National Energy Modeling System (NEMS) used to generate the projections in the *Annual Energy Outlook 2016* [1] (AEO2016), including general features of the model structure, assumptions concerning energy markets, and the key input data and parameters that are the most significant in formulating the model results. Detailed documentation of the modeling system is available in a series of documentation reports [2].

The National Energy Modeling System

Projections in AEO2016 are generated using NEMS [3], developed and maintained by the Office of Energy Analysis of the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). In addition to its use in developing the Annual Energy Outlook (AEO) projections, NEMS is used to complete analytical studies for the U.S. Congress, the Executive Office of the President, other offices within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and other federal agencies. NEMS is also used by nongovernmental groups, such as the Electric Power Research Institute, Duke University, and the Georgia Institute of Technology. In addition, AEO projections are used by analysts and planners in other government agencies and nongovernmental organizations.

The projections in NEMS are developed with the use of a market-based approach, subject to regulations and standards. For each fuel and consuming sector, NEMS balances energy supply and demand, accounting for economic competition across the various energy fuels and sources. The time horizon of NEMS extends to 2050. To represent regional differences in energy markets, the component modules of NEMS function at the regional level: the 9 Census divisions for the end-use demand modules; production regions specific to oil, natural gas, and coal supply and distribution; 22 regions and subregions of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation for electricity; and 9 refining regions within the 5 Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADDs). Complete regional and detailed results are available on the EIA Analysis and Projections Home Page (www.eia.gov/analysis/).

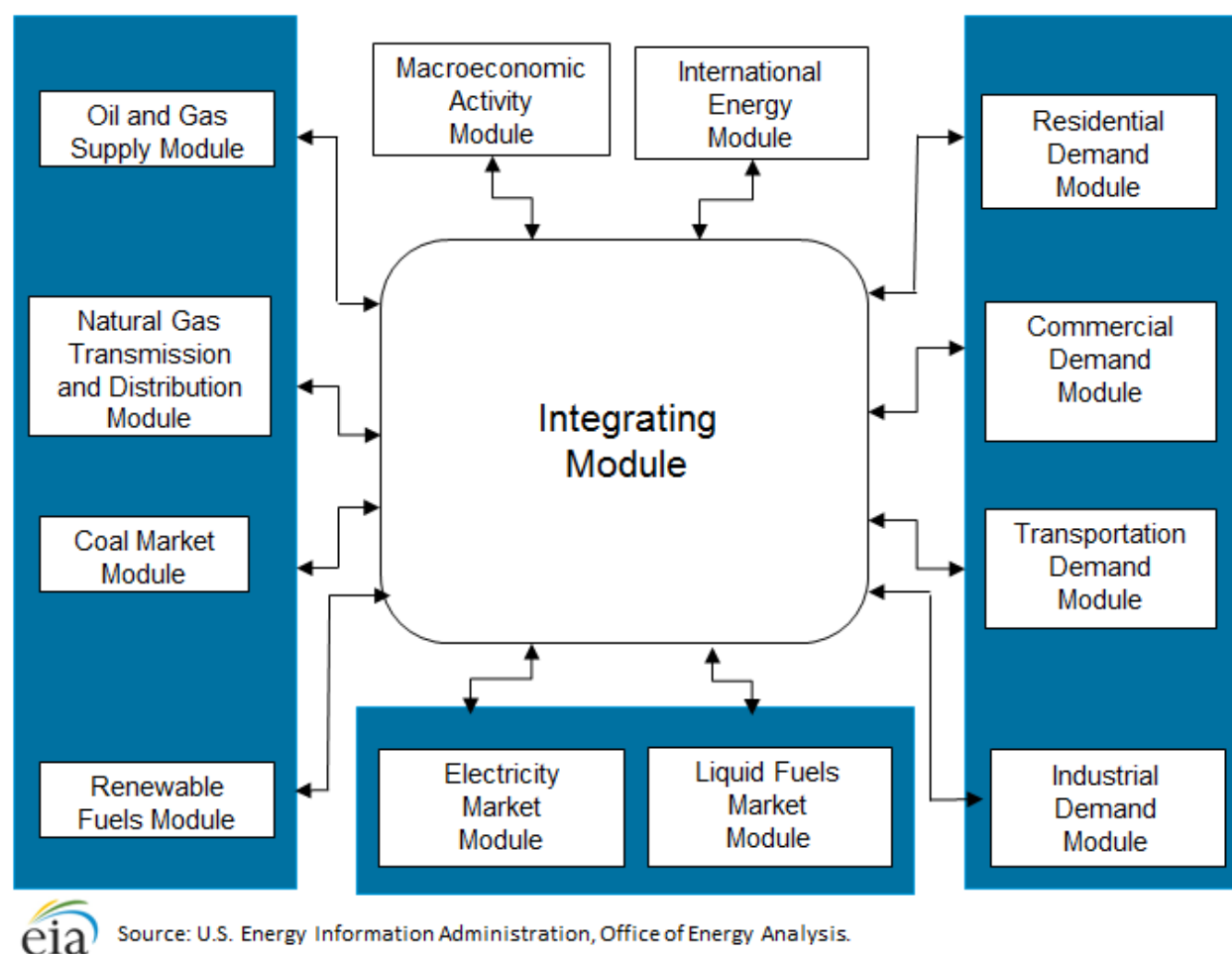
NEMS is organized and implemented as a modular system (Figure 1.1). The modules represent each of the fuel supply markets, conversion sectors, and end-use consumption sectors of the energy system. The modular design also permits the use of the methodology and level of detail most appropriate for each energy sector. NEMS executes each of the component modules to solve for prices of energy delivered to end users and the quantities consumed, by product, region, and sector. The delivered fuel prices encompass all activities necessary to produce, import, and transport fuels to end users. The information flows also include such areas as economic activity, domestic production, and international petroleum supply. NEMS calls each supply, conversion, and end-use demand module in sequence until the delivered prices of energy and the quantities demanded have converged within tolerance, thereby achieving an economic equilibrium of supply and demand in the consuming sectors. A solution is reached for each year from 2016 through 2050. Other variables, such as petroleum product imports, crude oil imports, and several macroeconomic indicators, are also evaluated for convergence.

Each NEMS component represents the effects and costs of legislation and environmental regulations that affect that sector. NEMS accounts for all combustion-related carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, as well as emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and mercury from the electricity generation sector.

The integrating module of NEMS controls the execution of each of the component modules. To facilitate modularity, the components do not pass information to each other directly but communicate through a central data storage location. This modular design provides the capability to execute modules individually, thus allowing decentralized development of the system and independent analysis and testing of individual modules that appropriately reflect each energy sector.

The version of NEMS used for AEO2016 generally represents current legislation and environmental regulations, including recent government actions for which implementing regulations were available as of the end of February 2016, as discussed in the Legislation and Regulations section of the AEO. The potential effects of proposed federal and state legislation, regulations, or standards—or of sections of legislation that have been enacted but require funds and implementing regulations that have not been provided or specified—are not reflected in NEMS. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Clean Power Plan (CPP), is included in the Reference case of AEO2016. However, because of the continuing uncertainty surrounding its implementation, a No CPP case is also included. A list of the specific federal and selected state legislation and regulations included in the AEO, including how they are incorporated, is provided in Appendix A.

Figure 1.1. National Energy Modeling System



Component modules

The component modules of NEMS represent the individual supply, demand, and conversion sectors of domestic energy markets and also include international and macroeconomic modules. In general, the modules interact through values representing prices or expenditures for energy delivered to the consuming sectors and the quantities of end-use energy consumption. This section provides brief summaries of each of the modules.

Macroeconomic Activity Module

The Macroeconomic Activity Module (MAM) provides a set of macroeconomic drivers to the energy modules and receives energy-related indicators from the NEMS energy components as part of the macroeconomic feedback mechanism within NEMS. Key macroeconomic variables used in the energy modules include gross domestic product (GDP), disposable income, value of industrial shipments, new housing starts, sales of new light-duty vehicles (LDV), interest rates, and employment. Key energy indicators fed back to the MAM include aggregate energy prices and costs. The MAM uses the following models from IHS Global Insight: Macroeconomic Model of the U.S. Economy, National Industry Model, and National Employment Model. In addition, EIA has constructed a Regional Economic and Industry Model to project regional economic drivers, and a Commercial Floorspace Model to project 13 floorspace types in 9 Census

divisions. The accounting framework for industrial value of shipments uses the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

International Energy Module

The International Energy Module (IEM) uses assumptions of economic growth and expectations of future U.S. and world petroleum and other liquids production and consumption, by year, to project the interaction of U.S. and international petroleum and other liquids markets. This module provides a world crude-like liquids supply curve and generates a worldwide oil supply/demand balance for each year of the projection period. The supply-curve calculations are based on historical market data and a world oil supply/demand balance, which is developed from reduced-form models of international petroleum and other liquids supply and demand, current investment trends in exploration and development, and long-term resource economics by country and territory. The oil production estimates include both petroleum and other liquids supply recovery technologies. The IEM also provides, for each year of the projection period, endogenous assumptions for petroleum products for import and export in the United States. The IEM, through interacting with the rest of NEMS, changes North Sea Brent and West Texas Intermediate (WTI) prices in response to changes in expected production and consumption of crude-like liquids in the United States.

Residential and Commercial Demand Modules

The Residential Demand Module (RDM) projects energy consumption in the residential sector by Census division, housing type, and end use, based on delivered energy prices, the menu of equipment available, the availability of renewable sources of energy, and changes in the housing stock. The Commercial Demand Module (CDM) projects energy consumption in the commercial sector by Census division, building type, and category of end use, based on delivered prices of energy, availability of renewable sources of energy, and changes in commercial floorspace.

The RDM estimates the equipment stock for major end-use services, while the CDM estimates service demand met by major end-use equipment. Both incorporate assessments of advanced technologies, representations of renewable energy technologies, projections of distributed generation including commercial combined heat and power (CHP), and the effects of both building shell and appliance standards. The modules incorporate changes to heating and cooling degree days by Census division, based on a 30-year historical trend and state-level population projections. The RDM projects an increase in the average square footage of both new construction and existing structures, based on trends in new construction and remodeling, and commercial floorspace increases as a result of projected growth within the MAM of NEMS.

Industrial Demand Module

The Industrial Demand Module (IDM) projects the consumption of energy for heat and power, as well as the consumption of feedstocks in each of 21 industry groups. Energy consumption depends upon the delivered prices of energy and macroeconomic estimates of the value of shipments and of employment for each industry. As noted in the description of the MAM, the representation of industrial activity in NEMS is based on the NAICS. The industries are classified into three groups: energy-intensive manufacturing, non-energy-intensive manufacturing, and nonmanufacturing. Seven of eight energy-intensive manufacturing industries are modeled in the IDM, including energy-consuming components for boiler/steam/cogeneration, buildings, and process/assembly use of energy. Energy demand for petroleum and other liquids refining (the other

energy intensive manufacturing industry) is modeled in the Liquid Fuels Market Module (LFMM) as described below, but the projected consumption is reported under the industrial totals.

There were several major modeling changes in AEO2016. The major modeling changes include converting iron and steel and paper submodules to a technology choice model. The second change was to incorporate current motor regulations in the motor stock model. Also, individual industries were calibrated so that summed individual industry energy consumption equals total industrial energy consumption (excluding refining) within -0.2%/+0.01%. Finally, a limited energy-efficiency side case, including the technology choice modules only, was implemented.

The iron and steel and paper submodules use technology choice. Instead of the aggregate energy intensity evolving according to technology possibility curves, the iron and steel and paper models allow technology choice for each process. In previous years, the cement and lime, aluminum, and glass industries were converted to technology choice. All process flow models now use a technology choice approach.

Data updates include incorporating 2012 Economic Census data for the nonmanufacturing industries. Also, natural gas feedstock calibration was incorporated for the first time based on GlobalData projections of methanol and ammonia and nitrogenous fertilizer projections to 2018.

Transportation Demand Module

The Transportation Demand Module (TDM) projects consumption of energy by mode and fuel type in the transportation sector, subject to delivered energy prices and macroeconomic variables such as GDP, as well as other factors such as technology adoption. Transportation modes include LDV heavy-duty vehicles (HDV), air, marine, and rail. Fuel types include motor gasoline, distillate, jet fuel, and alternate fuels such as ethanol (E85) and compressed and liquefied natural gas (CNG/LNG). The LDV travel component uses fuel prices, personal income, and 10 age and gender population groups to generate projections. The TDM considers legislation and regulations, such as the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT2005), the Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008 (EIEA2008), and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA2009), which contain tax credits for the purchase of alternatively-fueled vehicles. Representations of LDV Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions standards, HDV fuel consumption and GHG emissions standards, and biofuels consumption reflect requirements enacted by U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the EPA, as well as provisions in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA2007). TDM also considers the Clean Air Act provision that provides the state of California the authority to set vehicle criteria emission standards that exceed federal standards

The air transportation component of the TDM represents air travel in 13 domestic and foreign regional markets (United States, Canada, Central America, South America, Europe, Africa, Middle East, Commonwealth of Independent States, China, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, and Oceania) and includes the industry practice of parking aircraft in both domestic and international markets to reduce operating costs, as well as the industry practice of moving aircraft from passenger to cargo markets. For passenger travel and air freight shipments, the module represents regional fuel use and travel demand for three aircraft types: regional, narrow-body, and wide-body. An infrastructure constraint, which is also modeled, can potentially limit overall growth in passenger and freight air travel to levels commensurate with industry-projected infrastructure expansion and capacity growth.

The TDM projects energy consumption for freight trucks (HDV including buses, vocational vehicles, and tractor trailers), freight and passenger rail, and international and domestic marine vessels by fuel and Census division, as well as marine fuel choices and demand for ocean-going vessels operating within the North American and Caribbean Emission Control Areas (ECAs). Freight trucks, freight rail, and domestic and international marine are subject to macroeconomic drivers such as the value and type of industrial shipments. Passenger rail projections are subject to personal income and fuel prices.

Electricity Market Module

There are three primary submodules of the Electricity Market Module (EMM): capacity planning, fuel dispatching, and finance and pricing. The capacity expansion submodule uses the stock of existing generation capacity, the cost and performance of future generation capacity, expected fuel prices, expected financial parameters, expected electricity demand, and expected environmental regulations to project the optimal mix of new generation capacity that should be added in future years. The fuel dispatching submodule uses the existing stock of generation equipment types, their operation and maintenance costs and performance, fuel prices to the electricity sector, electricity demand, and all applicable environmental regulations to determine the least-cost way to meet that demand. The submodule also determines inter-regional trade and costs of electricity generation. The finance and pricing submodule uses capital costs, fuel and operating costs, macroeconomic parameters, environmental regulations, and load shapes to estimate retail electricity prices for each sector.

All final regulations, as of February 2016, issued by the EPA for compliance with the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 are explicitly represented in the capacity expansion and dispatch decisions, including the CO₂ performance standards for new power plants and the CPP, which restricts CO₂ emissions from existing plants. All financial incentives for power generation expansion and dispatch specifically identified in EPACT2005 and revised through later amendments have been implemented. Several states, primarily in the Northeast, had previously enacted air emission regulations for CO₂ that affect the electricity generation sector, and those regulations continue to be represented in AEO2016. The AEO2016 Reference case imposes a limit on CO₂ emissions for specific covered sectors, including the electric power sector, in California, as represented in California's AB 32. The AEO2016 Reference case assumes implementation of the Cross State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR), after the Supreme Court lifted the stay in October 2014 and upheld CSAPR as a replacement to the Clean Air Interstate Rule, both of which were developed to reduce emissions that contribute to ozone and fine particle pollution. Reductions in mercury emissions from coal- and oil-fired power plants also are reflected through the inclusion of the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards for power plants, finalized by the EPA on December 16, 2011.

Because regulators and the investment community have continued to push energy companies to invest in technologies that are less GHG-intensive, the AEO2016 Reference case continues to apply a 3-percentage-point increase in the cost of capital when evaluating investments in new coal-fired power plants, new coal-to-liquids (CTL) plants without carbon capture and storage, and pollution control retrofits. Although any new coal-fired plant is assumed to be compliant with new source performance standards, this would only require 30% capture of CO₂ emissions and would still be considered high emitting relative to other new sources, and will continue to face financial risk if carbon emission controls are further strengthened.

Renewable Fuels Module

The Renewable Fuels Module (RFM) includes submodules representing renewable resource supply and technology input information for central-station, grid-connected electricity generation technologies, including conventional hydroelectricity, biomass (dedicated biomass plants and co-firing in existing coal plants), geothermal, landfill gas, solar thermal electricity, solar photovoltaics, and both onshore and offshore wind energy. The RFM contains renewable resource supply estimates representing the regional opportunities for renewable energy development.

Investment tax credits (ITCs) for renewable fuels are incorporated, as currently enacted. The ITC includes business investment in solar energy (thermal nonpower uses as well as power uses) and geothermal power (available only to those projects not accepting the production tax credit [PTC] for geothermal power). For solar facilities this includes a 30% tax credit for technologies commencing construction before December 31, 2019. At that time the ITC begins to phase down in value annually until December 31, 2021, where it remains as a permanent 10% tax credit. For geothermal electric plants, the ITC is permanently at 10%. The availability of the ITC to individual homeowners is reflected in the RDM and CDM.

The PTC for wind, geothermal, landfill gas, and some types of hydroelectric and biomass-fueled plants are represented in AEO2016 based on the laws enacted in December 2015. These laws provide a credit of up to 2.3 cents/kilowatthour (kWh) for electricity produced in the first 10 years of plant operation. For AEO2016, the tax credit is phased down for wind plants and expires for other technologies commencing construction after December 31, 2016. Starting in 2017, the tax credit value for wind plants decreases by 20% annually until it expires at the end of 2019. As part of ARRA2009, plants eligible for the PTC may instead elect to receive a 30% ITC or an equivalent direct grant. AEO2016 also accounts for new renewable energy capacity resulting from state renewable portfolio standards.

Oil and Gas Supply Module

The Oil and Gas Supply Module represents domestic crude oil and natural gas supply within an integrated framework that captures the interrelationships among the various sources of supply—onshore, offshore, and Alaska—by all production techniques, including natural gas recovery from coalbeds and low-permeability geologic formations. The framework analyzes cash flow and profitability to compute investment and drilling for each of the supply sources, based on the prices for crude oil and natural gas, the domestic recoverable resource base, and the state of technology. Oil and natural gas production activities are modeled for 12 supply regions, including 6 onshore, 3 offshore, and in 3 regions not Alaska.

The Onshore Lower 48 Oil and Gas Supply Submodule evaluates the economics of future exploration and development projects for crude oil and natural gas plays. Crude oil resources include structurally reservoired resources (i.e., conventional) as well as highly fractured continuous zones, such as the Austin Chalk and Bakken shale formations. Production potential from advanced secondary recovery techniques (such as infill drilling, horizontal continuity, and horizontal profile) and enhanced oil recovery (such as CO₂ flooding, steam flooding, polymer flooding, and profile modification) are explicitly represented. Natural gas resources include high-permeability carbonate and sandstone, tight gas, shale gas, and coalbed methane.

Domestic crude oil production volumes are used as inputs to the LFMM for conversion and blending into refined petroleum products. Supply curves for natural gas are used as inputs to the Natural Gas

Transmission and Distribution Module (NGTDM) for determining natural gas wellhead prices and domestic production.

Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution Module

The NGTDM represents the transmission, distribution, and pricing of natural gas, subject to end-use demand for natural gas and the availability of domestic natural gas and natural gas traded on the international market. The NGTDM balances natural gas supply and demand, tracks the flows of natural gas, and determines the associated capacity expansion requirements in an aggregate pipeline network, connecting domestic and limited foreign supply sources with 12 lower 48 states regions.

The 12 lower 48 states regions align with the 9 Census divisions, with 3 subdivided, and Alaska handled separately. The flow of natural gas is determined for both a peak and off-peak period in the year, assuming a historically based seasonal distribution of natural gas demand. Key components of pipeline and distributor tariffs are included in separate pricing algorithms. The primary outputs of the module are delivered natural gas prices by region and sector, supply prices, and realized domestic natural gas production. The module also projects natural gas pipeline imports and exports to Canada and Mexico, as well as LNG imports and exports.

Liquids Fuels Market Module

The LFMM projects prices of petroleum products, crude oil and product import/export activity, and domestic refinery operations, subject to demand for petroleum products, availability and price of imported petroleum, environmental regulations, and domestic production of crude oil, natural gas liquids, and biofuels—ethanol, biodiesel, biomass-to-liquids (BTL), (CTL),- gas-to-liquids (GTL), and coal-and-biomass-to-liquids (CBTL). Costs, performance, and first dates of commercial availability for the advanced liquid fuels technologies are reviewed and updated annually.

The module represents refining activities in eight U.S. regions and a Maritime Canada/Caribbean refining region (created to represent short-haul international refineries that predominantly serve U.S. markets). For better representation of policy, import/export patterns, and biofuels production, the eight U.S. regions are defined by subdividing three of the five U.S. Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts. The nine refining regions are defined below:

PADD I – East Coast

PADD II – Interior

PADD II – Great Lakes

PADD III – Gulf Coast

PADD III – Interior

PADD IV – Mountain

PADD V – California

PADD V – Other

Maritime Canada/Caribbean

The LFMM models the costs of automotive fuels, such as conventional and reformulated gasoline, and includes production of biofuels for blending in gasoline and diesel. Fuel ethanol and biodiesel are included in the LFMM because they are commonly blended into petroleum products. The module allows ethanol blending into gasoline at 10% by volume, 15% by volume in states that lack explicit language capping

ethanol volume or oxygen content, and up to 85% by volume for use in flex-fuel vehicles. The module also includes a 16% by volume biobutanol/gasoline blend. Crude oil and refinery product imports are represented by supply curves defined by the NEMS IEM. Products also can be imported from refining region 9 (Maritime Canada/Caribbean). Refinery product exports are represented by demand curves, also provided by the IEM. Crude exports from the United States are also represented.

Capacity expansion of refinery process units and nonpetroleum liquid fuels production facilities is also modeled in the LFMM. The model uses current liquid fuels production capacity, the cost and performance of each production unit, expected fuel and feedstock costs, expected financial parameters, expected liquid fuels demand, and relevant environmental policies to project the optimal mix of new capacity that should be added in the future.

The LFMM includes representation of the renewable fuels standards (RFS) specified in the EISA2007, which mandates the use of 36 billion ethanol-equivalent gallons of renewable fuel by 2022. Both domestic and imported biofuels count toward the RFS. Domestic ethanol production is modeled for three feedstock categories: corn, cellulosic plant materials, and advanced feedstock materials. Corn ethanol plants, which are numerous (responsible for 98% of total ethanol produced in the United States), are based on a well-known technology that converts starch and sugar into ethanol. Ethanol from cellulosic sources is a relatively new technology with only a few commercial plants in operation. Ethanol from advanced feedstocks, which are produced at ethanol refineries that ferment and distill grains other than corn and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50%, is another new technology modeled in the LFMM. The LFMM also has the capability to model production of biobutanol from a retrofitted corn ethanol facility, if economically competitive.

Fuels produced by Fischer-Tropsch synthesis or through a pyrolysis process also are modeled in the LFMM, based on their economics in comparison with competing feedstocks and products. The five processes modeled are CTL, CBTL, GTL, BTL, and pyrolysis.

Two California-specific policies also are represented in the LFMM: the low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) and the Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), cap-and-trade program. The LCFS requires the carbon intensity of transportation fuels sold for use in California (the amount of greenhouse gases emitted per unit of energy) to decrease according to a schedule published by the California Air Resources Board. California's AB 32 cap-and-trade program is established to help California achieve its goal of reducing CO₂ emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. Working with other NEMS modules (IDM, EMM, and Emissions Policy Module), the LFMM provides emissions allowances and actual emissions of CO₂ from California refineries, and NEMS provides the mechanism (carbon price) to trade allowances such that the total CO₂ emissions cap is met.

Coal Market Module

The Coal Market Module (CMM) simulates mining, transportation, and pricing of coal, subject to end-use demand for coal differentiated by heat and sulfur content. U.S. coal production is represented in the CMM by 41 separate supply curves—differentiated by region, mine type, coal rank, and sulfur content. The coal supply curves respond to mining capacity, capacity utilization of mines, labor productivity, and factor input costs (mining equipment, mining labor, and fuel requirements).

Projections of U.S. coal distribution are determined by minimizing the cost of coal supplied, given coal demands by region and sector, environmental restrictions; and accounting for minemouth prices, transportation costs, and coal supply contracts. Over the projection horizon, coal transportation costs in the CMM vary in response to changes in the cost of rail investments.

The CMM produces projections of U.S. steam and metallurgical coal exports and imports in the context of world coal trade, determining the pattern of world coal trade flows that minimizes production and transportation costs while meeting a specified set of regional coal import demands, subject to constraints on export capacities and trade flows. The international coal market component of the module computes trade in 2 types of coal (steam and metallurgical) for 17 export regions and 20 import regions. U.S. coal production and distribution are computed for 14 supply regions and 16 demand regions.

Annual Energy Outlook 2016 cases

Table 1.1 provides a summary of the cases produced as part of AEO2016. For each case, the table gives the name used in AEO2016, a brief description of the major assumptions underlying the projections, and a reference to the pages in the body of the report and the specific appendix where the case is discussed. The text sections following Table E1 describe the various cases in more detail. The Reference case assumptions for each sector are described in Assumptions to the Annual Energy Outlook 2016. Regional results and other details of the projections are available at http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/aeo/tables_ref.cfm#supplement.

Macroeconomic growth cases

In addition to the AEO2016 Reference case, Low Economic Growth and High Economic Growth cases were developed to reflect the uncertainty in projections of economic growth. The alternative cases are intended to show the effects of alternative growth assumptions on energy market projections. The cases are described as follows:

- In the Reference case, population grows by 0.7%/year, nonfarm employment by 0.7%/year, and productivity by 1.7%/year from 2015 to 2040. Economic output as measured by real GDP increases by 2.2%/year from 2015 through 2040, and growth in real disposable income per capita averages 1.7%/year.
- The Low Economic Growth case assumes lower growth rates for population (0.6%/year) and productivity (1.3%/year), resulting in lower growth in nonfarm employment (0.6%/year), higher prices and interest rates, and lower growth in industrial output. In the Low Economic Growth case, economic output as measured by real GDP increases by 1.6%/year from 2015 through 2040, and growth in real disposable income per capita averages 1.4%/year.
- The High Economic Growth case assumes higher growth rates for population (0.8%/year) and productivity (2.0%/year), resulting in higher nonfarm employment (1.0%/year). With higher productivity gains and employment growth, inflation and interest rates are lower than in the Reference case, and consequently economic output grows at a higher rate (2.8%/year) than in the Reference case (2.2%/year). Real disposable income per capita grows by 2.0%/year.

Oil price cases:

- The benchmark oil price in AEO2016 is based on spot prices for North Sea Brent crude oil, which is an international standard for light sweet crude oil. The West Texas Intermediate (WTI) spot price is

generally lower than the North Sea Brent price. EIA expects the price spread between Brent and WTI in the Reference, Low Oil Price, and High Oil Price cases to range between \$0/barrel and \$10/b and will continue to report WTI prices—a critical reference point for the value of growing production in the U.S. Midcontinent—as well as the imported refiner acquisition cost for crude oil. The December 2015 decision by the U.S. Congress to remove restrictions on U.S. crude oil exports also has the potential to narrow the spread between the Brent price and the price of domestic production streams under certain cases involving high levels of U.S. crude oil production.

- The historical record shows substantial variability in oil prices, and there is arguably even more uncertainty about long-term prices. AEO2016 considers three oil price cases (Reference, Low Oil Price, and High Oil Price) to allow an assessment of alternative views on the future course of oil prices.
- The Low and High Oil Price cases reflect a wide range of potential price paths, resulting from variation in global demand and supply of petroleum and other liquid fuels. The Low Oil Price case assumes conditions under which global liquids demand is low and supply is high, while the High Oil Price case assumes the opposite. Both cases illustrate situations in which the shifts in global supply and demand are offsetting, so that liquids consumption is close to Reference case levels, but prices are substantially different.
- In the Reference case, real oil prices (2015 dollars) fall from \$52/b in 2015 to a low of \$37/b in 2016, before rising steadily to \$136/b in 2040. The Reference case represents a trend projection for both oil supply and demand. Global supply increases through the medium-term (although it does slow from 2020–25) and is limited by geopolitical constraints rather than by resource availability. Global petroleum and other liquids consumption increases steadily throughout the Reference case, in part because of an increase in the number of vehicles across the world, which is offset somewhat by improvements in LDV and HDV fuel economy in developing countries, as well as increased natural gas use for transportation in most regions. Economic growth is steady over the projection period, and there is some substitution away from liquids fuels in the industrial sector.
- In the Low Oil Price case, crude oil prices fall to an average of \$35/b (2015 dollars) in 2016, remain below \$50/b through 2030, and stay below \$75/b through 2040. Relatively low demand compared to the Reference case occurs as a result of several factors: economic growth that is relatively slow compared to history; reduced consumption in developed countries resulting from the adoption of more efficient technologies, extended CAFE standards, less travel demand, and increased use of natural gas or electricity; efficiency improvement in nonmanufacturing industries in the non-Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development countries; and industrial fuel switching from liquids to natural gas feedstocks for production of methanol and ammonia. Low oil prices also result from lower costs of production and relatively abundant supply from both Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and non-OPEC producers. However, lower-cost supply from OPEC producers eventually begins to crowd out supply from relatively more expensive non-OPEC sources. In the Low Oil Price case, OPEC's market share of liquids production rises steadily from 39% in 2015 to 43% in 2020 and to 47% in 2040.
- In the High Oil Price case, oil prices average about \$230/b (2015 dollars) in 2040. A lack of global investment in the oil sector is the primary cause of higher prices, which eventually lead to higher production from non-OPEC producers relative to the Reference case. Higher prices stimulate increased supply of more costly resources, including tight oil and bitumen, and also lead to

significant increases in production of renewable liquid fuels as well as GTL and CTL compared with the Reference case. Increased non-OPEC production crowds out OPEC oil, and OPEC's share of world liquids production decreases, never exceeding the 41% share reached in 2012 and dropping to 34% in 2040. The main reason for increased demand in the High Oil Price case is higher economic growth, particularly in developing countries, than in the Reference case. In the developing countries, consumers demand greater personal mobility and more consumption of goods. There are fewer efficiency gains in the industrial sector, while growing demand for fuel in the non-manufacturing sector continues to be met with liquid fuels, and policy shifts result in the replacement of chemical feedstocks by coal.

Buildings sector cases

- The Extended Policies case assumes that selected federal policies with sunset provisions are extended indefinitely at current levels rather than being allowed to sunset as the law currently prescribes. For the residential sector, PTCs are extended at the 30% level through 2040 for solar photovoltaics installations, solar water heaters, small wind turbines, and geothermal heat pumps. For residential solar equipment, tax credits are extended at the 30% level instead of being phased out completely as specified by current law. For the commercial sector, the ITC for solar technologies, small wind turbines, geothermal heat pumps, and CHP is extended at the 30% level through 2040. The business tax credit for solar technologies remains at the 30% level through 2040 instead of being phased down to 10%. The Extended Policies case includes updates to federal appliance standards, as prescribed by the timeline in the DOE's multiyear plan, and introduces new standards for products currently not covered by DOE. Efficiency levels for the updated residential appliance standards are based on current ENERGY STAR guidelines or "mid-level" efficiencies where ENERGY STAR guidelines are not available. End-use technologies eligible for extended incentives are not subject to new standards. Efficiency levels for updated commercial equipment standards are based on the technology menu from the AEO2016 Reference case and purchasing specifications for federal agencies designated by the Federal Energy Management Program. The Extended Policies case also adds two additional rounds of improved national building codes with implementation beginning in 2025 and 2034, each phased in over nine years.

Industrial sector cases

In addition to the AEO2016 Reference case, three technology-focused cases were developed, using the IDM to examine the effects of less rapid and more rapid technology change and adoption in the industrial sector. The energy intensity changes discussed in this section exclude the refining industry, which is modeled separately from the IDM in the LFMM. The technology cases are described as follows:

- The Energy Efficiency Case for Manufacturing Industries with Technology Choice case examines the effects of efficiency improvements made over time by manufacturers in the five process flow industries (cement and lime, aluminum, glass, iron and steel, and paper), which can change the mix of technologies chosen relative to the Reference case. Prices and economic conditions are the same as in the Reference case. The energy efficiency increases are based on research by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory related to best practice energy intensity, and on Bandwidth Analysis by DOE. This case includes more aggressive adoption of energy-efficient technologies and more

rapid improvement in the energy intensity of some future technology choices that currently are not being used.

- The Industrial Efficiency Low Incentive case examines the effects of a price on carbon emissions on energy efficiency in the industrial sector. This case includes all industries in the industrial sector except refining. It assumes a price on CO₂ emissions, as a proxy for higher energy costs, stimulating an increase in energy efficiency. The CO₂ price is phased in gradually, starting in 2018, rises to \$12.50/metric ton in 2023, and thereafter increases by 5%/year through 2040. The higher energy costs create an incentive to reduce fuel costs by increasing the efficiencies of existing technologies, adopting more energy-efficient technologies, and switching to less carbon-intensive fuels.
- The Industrial Efficiency High Incentive case uses the same approach as the Industrial Efficiency Low Incentive case but assumes a higher price on CO₂ emissions, starting in 2018, increasing gradually to \$35.00/metric ton in 2023, and increasing thereafter increases by 5%/year. The higher energy costs increase the incentive to increase efficiency and use less carbon-intensive fuels, leading to greater efficiency improvement than in the Reference and Industrial Efficiency Low Incentive cases.
- The Extended Policies case described below is a cross-cutting integrated case that involves making changes in a number of NEMS models. The Extended Policies case modifies selected industrial assumptions from the Reference case, assuming that the existing 10% ITC for industrial CHP is extended through 2040, modifying capacity limitations on the ITC by increasing the cap on CHP equipment from 15 megawatt (MW) to 25 MW, and eliminating the system-wide cap of 50 MW. These assumptions are based on the proposals made in H.R. 2750 and H.R. 2784 of the 112th Congress.

Transportation sector cases

In addition to the AEO2016 Reference case, the NEMS TDM was used as part of two AEO2016 alternative cases.

- In the Extended Policies case, the TDM was used to examine the effects of extending LDV GHG emissions and CAFE standards beyond 2025, with the joint EPA/NHTSA CAFE Standards increasing after 2025, at an average annual rate of 1.3% through 2040, to a combined average LDV fuel economy compliance of 56.8 mpg in 2040. As part of the Extended Policies case, the TDM was also used to examine the effects of extending the HDV fuel efficiency and GHG emissions standards to reflect requirements under the Phase 2 Standards proposal. The regulations are currently specified for model years 2014 through 2018. The Extended Policies case includes a modest increase in fuel consumption and GHG emissions standards for 13 HDV size classes.
- Assumptions in the NEMS TDM were modified for the Phase 2 Standards case, which examines the effects of the EPA/NHTSA jointly proposed GHG emissions and fuel efficiency standards for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. The Phase 2 Standards case includes assumptions of improved technology options for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles by replacing and increasing the number of technologies from 37 to 70. The Phase 2 Standards case also includes restructured and updated vehicle size classes that increase the size classes from 13 to 14.

Electricity sector cases

While the Reference case includes one potential implementation of the CPP, there are uncertainties related to the options that states will use to comply with the rule. The rule is also being challenged in court, and the Supreme Court has stayed enforcement of the rule until legal challenges are resolved. To date, the rule has not been vacated or affirmed by any lower court ruling. Therefore, several integrated cases assuming alternate paths to meeting the CPP were developed to support discussions in the Market Trends and Issues in Focus section of AEO2016. A case was also developed assuming that the CPP is not implemented. The Issues in Focus article, “Effects of the Clean Power Plan,” discusses the impacts of the CPP under different implementations relative to the mass-based standards assumed in the Reference case, and relative to the case without any CPP enforcement.

Clean Power Plan cases

- The No CPP case assumes that the CPP is completely vacated and is not enforced, implying that states have no federal requirement to reduce CO₂ emissions from existing power plants. There are no constraints imposed in the electricity model to reach regional rate-based or mass-based CO₂ targets (other than programs already in place, such as the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative [RGGI] and AB 32). There is no incentive for incremental energy efficiency in the end-use demand modules.
- The CPP Rate case assumes that all regions choose to comply with the CPP by meeting average rate-based emissions goals (pounds/megawatthour) within each EMM region, without cooperation across regions. That is, each region has a specific average emission rate that must be met by the affected generation in the region.
- The CPP Interregional Trading case assumes that all regions choose to meet mass-based goals, covering existing and new sources (as in the Reference case), but with trading of carbon allowances between regions within the Eastern and Western Interconnects. In this case, regions that reduce emissions more than needed to meet their own regional caps may trade their excess allowances with other regions, allowing those regions to emit more than their caps.
- The CPP Extended case further reduces the CO₂ targets after 2030 instead of maintaining a constant standard. This case assumes that the mass-based limits in 2030, which will result in power sector CO₂ emissions that are about 35% below 2005 levels, continue to decline linearly to achieve a 45% reduction below 2005 levels in 2040. The post-2030 reductions are applied using the same rate of decline for each state.
- The CPP Hybrid case assumes that regions in which programs enforcing carbon caps are already in place (RGGI in the Northeast and AB 32 in California) comply with the CPP through a mass-based goal, but that states in other regions implement the CPP using a rate-based approach. This case assumes no interregional trading for CPP compliance.
- The CPP Allocation to Generators case assumes that all regions meet mass-based caps including new sources (as in the Reference case), but that the carbon allowances are freely allocated to generators, rather than to load-serving entities. In this case, it is assumed that generators in competitive regions will continue to include the value of allowances in their operating costs and, as a result, that marginal generation costs will reflect the costs of allowances. The Reference case assumes that the allowances are allocated to load-serving entities, which then refund the revenue from the allowance sales to consumers through lower distribution prices. The CPP Allocation to

Generators case assumes no reduction in distribution costs, resulting in prices that are higher than those in the Reference case and showing the impact of allowance allocation alternatives on retail prices.

Extended Policies case

The Reference case includes the CPP, which under current regulations is phased in over the 2022–30 period, and assumes that states comply by setting mass-based compliance strategies that cover both existing and new electric generators. The Extended Policies case assumes a further reduction in CO₂ targets after 2030. The mass-based limits, which in the Reference case result in power sector CO₂ emissions that are 35% below 2005 levels in 2030, are assumed to continue declining linearly to 45% below 2005 levels in 2040.

Renewable fuels cases

AEO2016 also includes an Extended Policies case to examine the effects of indefinite extension of expiring federal tax credits for renewable electricity generation plants. In the Extended Policies case, the full tax credit of 2.3 cents/kWh (adjusted annually for inflation) is extended permanently beyond 2017 for new wind and geothermal generators and is available for the first 10 years of production. A tax credit of 1.1 cents/kWh, also available for the first 10 years of production, is extended indefinitely to new generators using landfill gas, certain hydroelectric technologies, and biomass fuels open-loop biomass is assumed to be the predominant source of biomass fuel over the projection period.) Furthermore, this case maintains the permanent availability of the 30% ITC (the ITC's value prior to phaseout) for new generators using solar energy.

Oil and natural gas supply cases

The sensitivity of the AEO2016 projections to changes in assumptions regarding technically recoverable domestic crude oil and natural gas resources is examined in two cases. These cases do not represent a confidence interval for future domestic oil and natural gas supply, but rather provide a framework to examine the effects of higher and lower domestic supply on energy demand, imports, and prices. Assumptions associated with the two cases are described below.

- In the Low Oil and Gas Resource and Technology case, the estimated ultimate recovery per tight oil, tight gas, or shale gas well in the United States and undiscovered resources in Alaska and the offshore lower 48 states is assumed to be 50% lower than in the Reference case. Rates of technology improvement that reduce costs and increase productivity in the United States are also 50% lower than in the Reference case. These assumptions increase the per-unit cost of crude oil and natural gas development in the United States. The total unproved technically recoverable resource of crude oil is decreased to 150 billion barrels, and the natural gas resource is decreased to 1,303 trillion cubic feet (Tcf), as compared with unproved resource estimates of 238 billion barrels of crude oil and 2,136 Tcf of natural gas as of January 1, 2014, in the Reference case.
- In the High Oil and Gas Resource and Technology case, the resource assumptions are adjusted to allow a continued increase in domestic crude oil production through 2040, to 18 million barrels per day (b/d) compared with 11 million b/d in the Reference case. This case includes: (1) 50% higher estimated ultimate recovery per tight oil, tight gas, or shale gas well, as well as additional

unidentified tight oil and shale gas resources to reflect the possibility that additional layers or new areas of low-permeability zones will be identified and developed; (2) diminishing returns on the estimated ultimate recovery once drilling levels in a county exceed the number of potential wells assumed in the Reference case, to reflect well interference at greater drilling density; (3) 50% higher assumed rates of technological improvement that reduce costs and increase productivity in the United States relative to the Reference case; and (4) 50% higher technically recoverable undiscovered resources in Alaska and the offshore lower 48 states than in the Reference case. The total unproved technically recoverable resource of crude oil increases to 385 billion barrels, and the natural gas resource increases to 3,109 Tcf as compared with unproved resource estimates of 238 billion barrels of crude oil and 2,136 Tcf of natural gas in the Reference case as of the start of 2014.

Extended Policies case

In addition to the AEO2016 Reference case, the AEO2016 Extended Policies case assumes the extension of all existing tax credits and policies that contain sunset provisions at current levels, except those requiring additional funding (e.g., loan guarantee programs). The Extended Policies case also assumes an increase in the capacity limitations on the ITC for CHP, and extension of the program. It includes an additional round of federal efficiency standards for residential and commercial products, as well as new standards for products not yet covered, adds multiple rounds of national building codes by 2034 and increases LDV and HDV fuel economy standards in the transportation sector. The Extended Policies case also assumes continued tightening of EPA's CPP regulations that reduce CO₂ emissions from electric power generation after 2030. Specific assumptions for each end-use sector and for renewables are described in the sector-specific sections above.

Table 1.1. Summary of AEO2016 cases

Case name	Description
Reference	Real gross domestic product (GDP) grows at an average annual rate of 2.2% from 2015 to 2040. Brent crude oil prices rise to about \$136/barrel (b) (2015 dollars) in 2040. Complete projection tables in Appendix A.
Low Economic Growth	Real GDP grows at an average annual rate of 1.6% from 2015 to 2040. Other energy market assumptions are the same as in the Reference case. Partial projection tables in Appendix B.
High Economic Growth	Real GDP grows at an average annual rate of 2.8% from 2015 to 2040. Other energy market assumptions are the same as in the Reference case. Partial projection tables in Appendix B.
Low Oil Price	Low prices result from a combination of relatively low demand for petroleum and other liquids in the non-Organization for Economic Cooperative Development (non-OECD) nations and higher global supply. Lower demand occurs as a result of several factors: economic growth that is relatively slow compared with history; reduced consumption from the adoption of more efficient technologies, extension of the corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards, less travel demand, and increased natural gas or electricity use; efficiency improvement in nonmanufacturing in non-OECD countries; and industrial fuel switching from liquid to natural gas feedstocks for producing methanol and ammonia. On the supply side, both Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and non-OPEC producers face lower costs of production for both crude oil and other liquids production technologies. However, lower-cost supply from OPEC producers eventually begins to crowd out supply from relatively more expensive non-OPEC sources. OPEC's market share of liquids production rises steadily from 39% in 2015 to 43% in 2020 and 47% in 2040. Light, sweet crude oil prices fall to an average of \$35/b (2015 dollars) in 2016, remain below \$50/b through 2030, and stay below \$75/b through 2040. Partial projection tables in Appendix C.
High Oil Price	High prices result from a lack of global investment in the oil sector, eventually inducing higher production from non-OPEC producers relative to the Reference case. Higher prices stimulate increased supply from resource that are more expensive to produce—such as tight oil and bitumen, as well as increased production of renewable and synthetic fuels, compared with the Reference case. Increased non-OPEC production crowds out OPEC oil, and OPEC's share of world liquids production decreases, never exceeding the 41% reached in 2012 and dropping to 34% by the end of the projection. On the demand side, higher economic growth than in the Reference case, particularly in non-OECD countries, leads to increased demand: non-OECD consumers demand greater personal mobility and consumption of goods. There are also fewer efficiency gains throughout the industrial sector, and growing fuel needs in the nonmanufacturing sector continue to be met with liquid fuels, especially in response to policy shifts that force liquids to replace coal for chemical feedstock. Crude oil prices are about \$230/b (2015 dollars) in 2040. Partial projection tables in Appendix C.

Table 1.1. Summary of AEO2016 cases (cont.)

Case name	Description
Extended Policies	The Extended Policies case begins with the Reference case and assumes extension of all existing tax credits (full credit values prior to phaseout are extended where phaseouts are scheduled) and policies that contain sunset provisions, except those requiring additional funding (e.g., loan guarantee programs). It also assumes an increase in capacity limitations on the investment tax credit (ITC) for combined heat and power, and extension of the program. The case includes an additional round of efficiency standards for residential and commercial products, as well as new standards for products not yet covered; adds multiple rounds of national building codes by 2034; and increases Light-Duty Vehicle (LDV) and Heavy-Duty Vehicle (HDV) fuel economy standards in the transportation sector. This case also includes the extension of EPA's Clean Power Plan (CPP) regulations that reduce carbon dioxide (CO ₂) emissions from electric power generation after 2030. Partial projection tables in Appendix D.
Oil and Gas: Low Oil and Gas Resource and Technology	Estimated ultimate recovery per shale gas, tight gas, and tight oil well in the United States and undiscovered resources in Alaska and the offshore lower 48 states are 50% lower than in the Reference case. Rates of technological improvement that reduce costs and increase productivity in the United States are also 50% lower than in the Reference case. All other assumptions remain the same as in the Reference case. Partial projection tables in Appendix D.
Oil and Gas: High Oil and Gas Resource and Technology	Estimated ultimate recovery per shale gas, tight gas, and tight oil well in the United States, and undiscovered resources in Alaska and the offshore lower 48 states, are 50% higher than in the Reference case. Rates of technological improvement that reduce costs and increase productivity in the United States are also 50% higher than in the Reference case. In addition, tight oil and shale gas resources are added to reflect new plays or the expansion of known plays. All other assumptions remain the same as in the Reference case. Partial projection tables in Appendix D.
Electricity: No CPP	Assumes that the CPP is not enforced, and that no federal requirements are in place to reduce CO ₂ emissions from existing power plants.
Electricity: CPP Rate	Assumes that CPP compliance is met through regional rate-based (pounds/MWh) standards that, on average, affect all generation within the region.
Electricity: CPP Interregional Trading	Assumes that CPP compliance is met through regional mass-based caps, including new sources, and allows trading of carbon allowances between regions within the Eastern Interconnect and within the Western Interconnect.
Electricity: CPP Extended	Assumes that the CPP CO ₂ emissions targets continue to decline after 2030, reaching a 45% reduction below 2005 levels in 2040.
Electricity: CPP Hybrid	Assumes that regions can vary their CPP compliance method, with the Northeast and California regions choosing mass-based caps and the remaining regions using average rate-based standards.

Table 1.1. Summary of AEO2016 cases (cont.)

Case name	Description
Electricity: CPP Allocation to Generators	Assumes the same CPP compliance as in the Reference case, except that the CO2 allowances are allocated to generators instead of being allocated to load entities, resulting in higher retail price impacts.
Energy Efficiency Case for Manufacturing Industries with Technology Choice	Assuming Reference case prices and economic conditions, examines the effects of more aggressive adoption of energy-efficient technologies and rapid improvement in energy intensity on manufacturers in five industries (cement and lime, aluminum, glass, iron and steel, and paper).
Industrial Efficiency Low Incentive	Uses a price on CO2 emissions as a proxy for higher energy costs, as a way to increase energy efficiency in all industries except refining. A CO2 price is phased in gradually, starting in 2018, reaches \$12.50/metric ton in 2023, and increases by 5% per year thereafter.
Industrial Efficiency High Incentive	As in the Industrial Efficiency Low Incentive case, with the only difference being that the CO2 price is \$35.00/metric ton in 2023.
Phase 2 Standards	Assumes improvements to medium- and heavy-duty vehicle technologies while increasing the number of technologies from 37 to 70. Restructures the current 13 vehicle size classes and incorporates an additional size class, bringing the total to 14 size classes.

Carbon dioxide emissions

CO₂ emissions from energy use are dependent on the carbon content of the fossil fuel, the fraction of the fuel consumed in combustion, and the consumption of that fuel. The product of the carbon content at full combustion and the combustion fraction yields an adjusted CO₂ factor for each fossil fuel. The emissions factors are expressed in millions of metric tons of carbon dioxide emitted per quadrillion British thermal unit (Btu) of energy use, or equivalently, in kilograms of CO₂ per million Btu. The adjusted emissions factors are multiplied by the energy consumption of the fossil fuel to arrive at the CO₂ emissions projections.

For fuel uses of energy, all of the carbon is assumed to be oxidized, so the combustion fraction is equal to 1.0 (in keeping with international conventions). Previously, a small fraction of the carbon content of the fuel was assumed to remain unoxidized. The carbon in nonfuel use of energy, such as for asphalt and petrochemical feedstocks, is assumed to be sequestered in the product and not released to the atmosphere. For energy categories that are mixes of fuel and nonfuel uses, the combustion fractions are based on the proportion of fuel use. In calculating CO₂ emissions for motor gasoline, the direct emissions from renewable blending stock (ethanol) is omitted. Similarly, direct emissions from biodiesel are omitted from reported CO₂ emissions.

Any CO₂ emitted by biogenic renewable sources, such as biomass and alcohols, is considered balanced by the CO₂ sequestration that occurred in its creation. Therefore, following convention, net emissions of CO₂ from biogenic renewable sources are assumed to be zero in reporting energy-related CO₂ emissions; however, to illustrate the potential for these emissions in the absence of any offsetting sequestration, as might occur under related land use change, the CO₂ emissions from biogenic fuel use are calculated and reported separately.

Table 1.2 presents the assumed CO₂ coefficients at full combustion, the combustion fractions, and the adjusted CO₂ emission factors used for AEO2016.

Table 1.2. Carbon dioxide emission factors

million metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent per quadrillion Btu

Fuel Type	Carbon Dioxide Coefficient at Full Combustion	Combustion Fraction	Adjusted Emission Factor
Petroleum			
Propane			
Used as fuel	63.07	1.000	63.07
Used as feedstock	61.07	0.200	12.61
Ethane used as feedstock	59.58	0.200	11.92
Butane used as feedstock	64.94	0.200	12.98
Isobutane used as feedstock	65.08	0.200	13.02
Natural gasoline used as feedstock	66.88	0.300	21.12
Motor gasoline (net of ethanol)	71.26	1.000	71.26
Jet fuel	70.88	1.000	70.88
Distillate fuel (net of biodiesel)	73.15	1.000	73.15
Residual fuel	78.80	1.000	78.80
Asphalt and road oil	75.61	0.000	0.00
Lubricants	74.21	0.500	37.11
Petrochemical feedstocks	71.02	0.410	29.11
Kerosene	72.31	1.000	72.31
Petroleum coke	101.09	0.956	97.64
Petroleum still gas	64.20	1.000	64.20
Other industrial	74.54	1.000	74.54
Coal			
Residential and commercial	95.33	1.000	95.33
Metallurgical	93.72	1.000	93.72
Coke	117.81	1.000	117.81
Industrial other	93.98	1.000	93.98
Electric utility ¹	95.52	1.000	95.52
Natural gas			
Used as fuel	53.06	1.000	53.06
Used as feedstock	53.06	0.437	23.21
Biogenic energy sources			
Biomass	93.81	1.000	93.81
Biogenic waste	90.64	1.000	90.64
Biofuels heats and coproducts	93.81	1.000	93.81
Ethanol	68.42	1.000	68.42
Biodiesel	72.73	1.000	72.73
Liquids from biomass	73.15	1.000	73.15
Green liquids	73.15	1.000	73.15

¹Emission factors for coal used for electric power generation within NEMS are specified by coal supply region and types of coal, so the average CO₂ content for coal varies throughout the projection. The value of 95.52 shown here is representative of recent history.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Monthly Energy Review, February 2016, DOE/EIA-0035(2014/11), (Washington, DC, February 2016).

Notes and sources

[1] U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Annual Energy Outlook 2016* (AEO2016), DOE/EIA-0383(2016) (Washington, DC, September 2016).

[2] NEMS documentation reports are available on the EIA Homepage ([http://www.eia.gov/reports/index.cfm#/KNEMS Documentation](http://www.eia.gov/reports/index.cfm#/KNEMS%20Documentation)).

[3] U.S. Energy Information Administration, *The National Energy Modeling System: An Overview 2009*, DOE/EIA-0581(2009) (Washington, DC, October 2009), [http://www.eia.gov/outlooks/aeo/nems/overview/pdf/0581\(2009\).pdf](http://www.eia.gov/outlooks/aeo/nems/overview/pdf/0581(2009).pdf).