

Combustible By-Products/Electric Power Industry: U.S. Energy Information Administration Report Addresses Production/Recycling Rates



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The United States Energy Information Administration (“EIA”) released a March 29th report titled:

U.S. Electric Power Industry Produces Less and Recycles More Combustible By-Product (“Report”)

By way of summary, the EIA report states that combustible by-product (“CBP”) production in the United States electric power industry decreased from 135.1 million short tons in 2010 to 88.7 million short tons in 2019.

The *Report* defines CBPs as:

Residues left over after the combustion of coal, petroleum coke, residual fuel oil, and wood or wood waste

An example from a coal-fired power plant would be the generation of fly ash from the burning of coal.

CBPs are noted often to be disposed of in on-site or off-site landfills or ponds. However, some CBPs are recycled or reused. Examples cited are reuse in products such as concrete wallboard or as structural fill to support roadways.

The EIA *Report* states that the beneficial reuse rate of CBPs from operating power plans increased from 38 percent in 2010 to 44 percent in 2019. Noted also as a cause for the decline in CBP production is reduced coal-fired capacity as coal-fired power plants are retired.

A copy of the *Report* can be downloaded [here](#).