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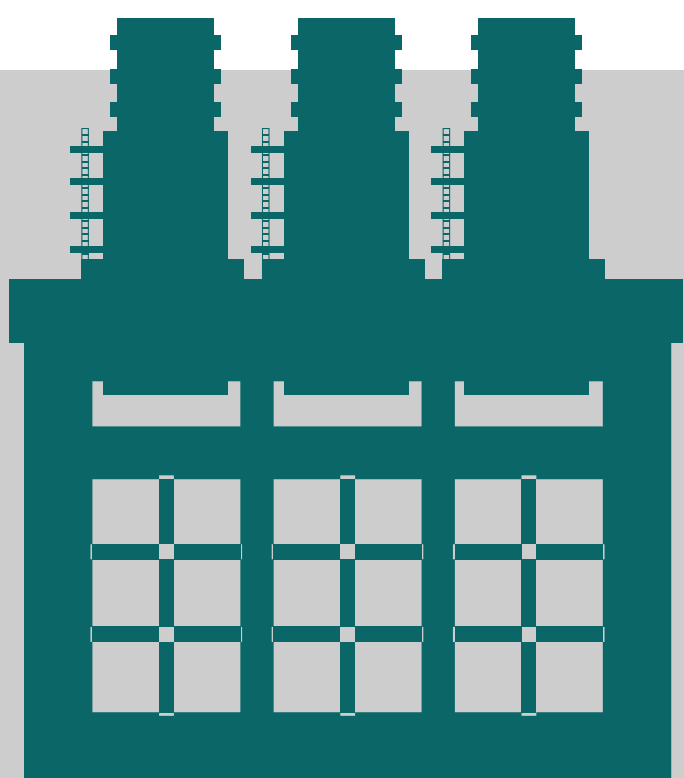
THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW Before the Paris Climate Conference Begins

Commonly referred to as the Paris Climate Conference, COP-21 stands for the **21st session of the Conference of Parties**, which is a scheduled United Nations meeting in Paris this year.



COP-21's mission is to adopt a plan requiring greenhouse gas emission reductions. The end goal will be **“an agreed outcome with legal force”** that all participating countries would adopt.

The United States takes a strong interest in this meeting. Many members of Congress are concerned that **the treaty will be a political tool for the Obama administration** to push forward its greenhouse gas rules by skirting around Congressional approval.



The COP-21 goal didn't come out of thin air. It's ultimately a replacement for the Kyoto Protocol with one crucial difference: While Kyoto had one five-year compliance period, **the Paris climate treaty ensures a new and updated emission reduction promise every 5 years**. Each new promise is to be “progressive beyond previous commitments”.

Congress can vote on **House Joint Resolutions 71 and 72 to block the Environmental Protection Agency** from implementing its greenhouse gas rules for new and existing power plants. But they need to act before December.



To learn more about COP-21, be sure to check back in at CEI.org for more upcoming blogs and infographics explaining what's next for the United States and COP-21.

