

Wisconsin has been ranked among the worst states when it comes to power plant pollution. New data by the Natural Resources Defense Council ranked the Badger State among the top 20 most toxic states in the country for toxic air pollution linked to electric power plants.

At the same time, the report found a 19 percent decrease in all air toxics emitted from power plants in 2010, the most recent data available, compared to 2009 levels. The welcomed drop, which also includes a 4 percent decrease in mercury emissions, results from two key factors.

John Walke, NRDC's clean air director, says the analysis judged states on how much pollution their residents are exposed to from coal and oil fired power plants.