

### **What is the environmental benefit methodology?**

The environmental impact estimates are based on the following:

1. The calculations for carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides not emitted are estimates based on a comparison to the average generation mix in the Mid-Atlantic power pool - which had average emission factors of 1,241.66022 lbs./MWh, 7.76652 lbs./MWh, and 2.14564 lbs./MWh, respectively (PJM system Mix - 2007).
2. The calculation for miles not driven assumes that 19.4 lbs. of carbon dioxide is released per gallon of gasoline consumed when driving the average U.S. automobile and that the average mileage for U.S. automobiles is 22.1 miles per gallon (EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Emission Facts-Greenhouse Gas Emissions from a Typical Passenger Vehicle, 2005).
3. The calculation for the equivalent acres of trees planted assumes that 1.11 metric tons of carbon dioxide are absorbed during the annual growth of an acre of typical North American trees. Over the course of 90 years, almost 100 metric tons of carbon per acre is accumulated, which is equivalent to 1.11 metric tons of carbon per acre, per year (Birdsey 2006) (<http://www.epa.gov/sequestration/faq.html#4>).