

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

an Initiative of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States of the U.S.

Fact Sheet: RGGI CO₂ Allowance Tracking System (RGGI COATS)

- **What is RGGI COATS?**

The RGGI CO₂ Allowance Tracking System (RGGI COATS) is the electronic platform that records and tracks data for each state's CO₂ Budget Trading Program. RGGI COATS enables the public to view, customize, and download reports of CO₂ allowance market activity and RGGI program data.

- **What types of program and market data are available to the public through RGGI COATS?**

RGGI COATS enables the public to view nine types of program and market data reports. The public reports contained in RGGI COATS provide access to the following information:

- 1) CO₂ allowance transactions, showing the date, price, and type of transaction
- 2) RGGI COATS accounts, showing a list of every account registered in RGGI COATS
- 3) RGGI COATS account representatives, showing individual contact details for all accounts
- 4) RGGI sources, listing each regulated power plant and its location
- 5) Owners/operators of RGGI sources, showing the corporate affiliation of owners and operators for each regulated power plant
- 6) Special approvals, detailing CO₂ allowance allocations made by states
- 7) Offset project applications and approvals
- 8) CO₂ emissions from RGGI sources, showing emissions for each regulated power plant and summary CO₂ emissions for the nine-state region
- 9) Compliance data for RGGI sources, showing both draft source-submitted compliance information and state-derived compliance evaluations for each control period.

- **How can I access the public reports provided through RGGI COATS?**

To view the public reports provided through RGGI COATS, go to the RGGI COATS website (www.rggi-coats.org), and click on the desired report category in the "Public Reports" section on the left-hand side of the screen. No login is required.

- **What else does RGGI COATS do?**

RGGI COATS:

- Records CO₂ emissions and CO₂ allowance holdings to support each state's regulatory oversight of its CO₂ Budget Trading Program and the RGGI CO₂ allowance market
- Enables RGGI market participants to receive and transfer CO₂ allowances
- Enables RGGI offset project sponsors to register offset projects and to submit offset project applications and reports to RGGI participating states.

- **How does RGGI COATS support each state's regulatory oversight of its CO₂ Budget Trading Program and the CO₂ allowance market?**

RGGI participating state agencies use RGGI COATS to determine whether regulated power plants are in compliance with state CO₂ Budget Trading Program regulations. According to each state's regulations, each RGGI-regulated power plant must submit CO₂ allowances equal to its CO₂ emissions at the end of each three-year control period. A power plant that does not submit enough CO₂ allowances to cover its CO₂ emissions will be required to surrender CO₂ allowances equal to three times the number (tons) of the source's excess emissions. The power plants may also be subject to state-specific penalties for non-compliance.

Starting in the third control period (which began January 1, 2015 and extends through December 31, 2017), each CO₂ budget source must hold allowances equal to 50 percent of their emissions during each interim control period (the first two calendar years of each three-year control period). Each CO₂ budget source must hold allowances equal to 100 percent of their remaining emissions for the three-year control period at the end of the three-year control period.

- **Who should open a RGGI COATS account?**

Parties interested in a) holding CO₂ allowances or b) registering RGGI offset projects must open a RGGI COATS account and obtain a RGGI COATS account number. Parties interested in viewing the public reports provided through RGGI COATS do not need to open a RGGI COATS account.

- **How are CO₂ emissions reported to RGGI COATS?**

Regulated power plants are required to report data necessary to quantify CO₂ emissions to RGGI participating states. CO₂ emissions data from each regulated power plant is recorded in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) Clean Air Markets Division (CAMD) database in accordance with state CO₂ Budget Trading Program regulations and U.S. EPA regulations at 40 CFR Part 75 and transferred to RGGI COATS. For more information on U.S. EPA's emissions reporting requirements, please see the U.S. EPA CAMD website at <http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/index.html>. State CO₂ Budget Trading Program regulations are available at <http://www.rggi.org/design/regulations>.

- **How else can I access RGGI data?**

The RGGI participating states also make public the reports of the RGGI independent market monitor, Potomac Economics. Potomac Economics provides independent expert monitoring of the competitive performance of the CO₂ allowance auctions and the secondary markets for RGGI CO₂ allowances. Reports issued by the market monitor include:

- **Auction Reports:** Immediately after each auction the independent market monitor issues an auction report which contains aggregate auction results and a list of all the bidders who submitted an Intent to Bid for the auction. Market monitor auction reports are available online at http://www.rggi.org/market/market_monitor
- **Secondary Market Reports:** At the end of each quarter, the market monitor releases a report on activity in the secondary markets for RGGI CO₂ allowances. These reports contain analysis and data of transactions for RGGI CO₂ allowances and futures contracts. Secondary market reports are available online at http://www.rggi.org/market/market_monitor

The RGGI participating states also provide quarterly information on the distribution of CO₂ allowances by state by allocation year. This information is available online at <http://www.rggi.org/market/tracking/allowance-allocation>

To learn more about RGGI COATS and to access RGGI data visit the RGGI website at: <http://www.rggi.org/market/tracking> and http://www.rggi.org/market/market_monitor.