

# Fact Sheet: Investment of RGGI Proceeds Through 2013









The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) is the nation’s first mandatory GHG pollution reduction program for power sector CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The RGGI states issue CO<sub>2</sub> allowances which are distributed almost entirely through regional auctions, resulting in proceeds for reinvestment in strategic energy and consumer programs. The report Investment of RGGI Proceeds Through 2013 tracks the investments and benefits funded by these proceeds.

## Report Findings

- Over \$1 billion in RGGI proceeds have been invested in the energy future of New England and Mid-Atlantic states. This includes investments in energy efficiency, clean and renewable energy, greenhouse gas abatement, and direct bill assistance.
- RGGI investments are projected to return more than \$2.9 billion in lifetime energy bill savings to more than 3.7 million participating households and 17,800 businesses.
- Over their lifetime, RGGI investments are projected to save more than 48.7 million mmBTU of fossil fuels and 11.5 million MWh of electricity, avoiding the release of approximately 10 million short tons of harmful carbon pollution.
- A significant portion of RGGI investments were used for energy efficiency, which is widely proven to be one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce pollution while encouraging growth.

## Facts to Know

- Investments in energy efficiency provide benefits even to non-participants, as they drive down overall electricity demand, reduce wholesale electricity prices and mitigate the need for investment in new electric infrastructure.
- Bill savings are also likely to provide additional economic benefits as those dollars are spent elsewhere within the local economy.
- The RGGI states have experienced a reduction of over 40 percent in power sector CO<sub>2</sub> pollution since 2005, while the regional economy has grown eight percent (adjusted for inflation).

By the Numbers: Programs Funded By Cumulative RGGI Investments		
 <b>Participating Households</b> To date: 3.7 million	 <b>Energy Bill Savings</b> To date: \$395 million Lifetime: \$2.9 billion	 <b>Short Tons CO<sub>2</sub> Avoided</b> To date: 1.3 million Lifetime: 10.3 million
 <b>Participating Businesses</b> To date: 17,800	 <b>Megawatt Hours Saved</b> To date: 1.8 million Lifetime: 11.5 million	 <b>Equiv. Cars off Road</b> To date: 245,000 Lifetime: 1.9 million
 <b>Workers Trained</b> To date: 3,700	 <b>mmBTU Saved</b> To date: 2.9 million Lifetime: 48.7 million	



## Success Stories

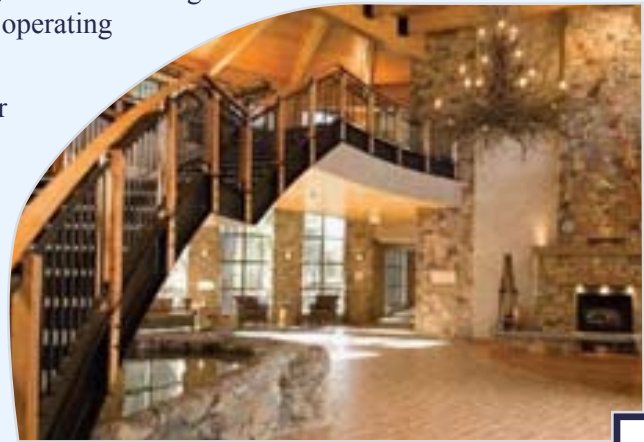
RGGI proceeds have helped provide improvements to private homes, local businesses, low-income housing, communities, and more. The [full report](#) contains examples from each RGGI state.

### Medical Arts Center at Franklin Community Health Network

The new Medical Arts Center at Franklin Community Health Network in Farmington is designed to look like an old-fashioned Maine woods lodge. But in this new building—and the renovated main hospital—state-of-the-art technology is hard at work to save energy while delivering critical medical care. Efficiency Maine (partially funded through RGGI proceeds) provided \$59,532 in incentives to help the hospital make several improvements:

- High-efficiency fluorescents now provide all the lighting, with occupancy and daylight sensors to turn them off when they're not needed.
- HVAC systems use highly efficient motors, while delivering precise temperature and humidity levels to operating rooms.
- Variable-speed drives now cut motor power consumption in half.

These energy-efficiency measures reduce Franklin Community Health Network's electric bills by 28%. With incentives from Efficiency Maine, they'll pay back in less than 6 months; estimated annual savings will be over \$45,000 in electricity and \$3,000 in labor.



### New York RGGI Proceeds Help Drive Private Investment in Solar Development

RGGI proceeds are driving private investment into solar development on Long Island. More than 3,500 homes and 40 non-residential properties mark the beginning of RGGI-funded solar energy projects in the area through Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's NY-Sun initiative. When the projects are completed, they will produce close to 32 megawatts of electricity. A little more than \$11 million in RGGI proceeds has helped leverage \$125 million in private investment to fund these projects. Long Island has a strong history with solar; it has installed approximately 41 percent of all the solar projects in New York State and recently celebrated its 10,000<sup>th</sup> solar installation, adding clean, renewable solar energy and greatly reducing carbon emissions.

NY-Sun is a \$1 billion initiative to advance the scale-up of solar and move the state closer to having a sustainable, self-sufficient solar industry. It provides a multifaceted approach to spur solar development, including incentives; training for solar installers; a standardized solar permit for communities; K-Solar, to help schools lower their energy costs by going solar; and Community Solar NY, which makes implementing solar easier and more affordable for communities.

