

Oct 4, 2011

RGGI State Commissioners and Staff

Dear State Commissioners and Staff,

As a member of Environmental Advocates of New York, I applaud the states participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) for their leadership in establishing a program to reduce climate-altering pollution.

RGGI has become the lynchpin of New York's clean energy strategy, accelerating the development of clean, renewable energy and helping consumers use energy more efficiently.

Last year, the northeastern states announced the start of a comprehensive review of the regional climate effort. The comprehensive review is an important opportunity for RGGI to improve.

As a concerned New York resident, I urge you to take the following steps to ensure RGGI meets its goal to reduce climate pollution according to schedule:

1. Lower the amount of pollution power plants can spew into the air.
2. Add more states to the program.
3. Expand RGGI to include additional sources of climate pollution, such as cement plants, solid waste combustion, and chemical production.

The regional climate effort is a modest program that has shown great success. Through these first few years we have learned that a cap-and-invest model is a valuable tool to reduce climate-altering pollution. Scientists tell us that we need to act aggressively to stave off the worst impacts of climate change, and I therefore respectfully request the states take the above actions to expand and improve RGGI.

Thank you for your attention on this important matter.

Sincerely,

[Respondent]

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