

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

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

LEARNING SESSION ON FLEXIBILITY MECHANISMS

January 24, 2012

90 Church St., 4th Floor, New York, NY

Remote Access: Audio (800) 937-4791

Visual Access: <http://www.webdialogs.com>, Conference ID: 78425

Meeting Agenda

- 9:30 **Registration**
- 10:00 **Call to Order, Introduction, and Procedures Review**
Nicole Singh, RGGI, Inc. Meeting Facilitator
- 10:10 **Meeting Welcome**
Jared Snyder, Assistant Commissioner, NYDEC
- 10:20 **Panel: State of the Offsets Market**
Nicholas Bianco, Senior Associate, World Resources Institute, Moderator
Olga Chistyakova, Interim Head Carbon North America, Point Carbon; Thomson Reuters Point Carbon
Molly Peters-Stanley, Manager Carbon Program, Ecosystem Marketplace
Gary Gero, President, Climate Action Reserve
- Q&A with stakeholders and state agency representatives**
- 11:50 **Panel: Looking Forward, Opportunities for a Robust Offset Market**
Nicholas Bianco, Senior Associate, World Resources Institute, Moderator
Rajinder Sahota, Manager, Climate Change Program Operations Section; California Air Resources Board (by webinar)
Scott Subler, President, Environmental Credit Corp.
- Q&A with stakeholders and state agency representatives**
- 12:50 **Lunch (On Your Own)**
- 1:50 **Panel: Perspectives on Cost Containment Allowance Reserves**
Franz Litz, Executive Director, Pace Energy and Climate Center, Moderator
Brian Murray, Nicholas Institute of the Environment at Duke University
Dallas Burtraw, Senior Fellow, Resources for the Future
William Shobe, Center for Economic & Policy Studies at University of Virginia
- Q&A with stakeholders and state agency representatives**
- 3:15 **General questions and answers with all panelists**
- 3:45 **Closing comments**
Nicole Singh, RGGI, Inc. Meeting Facilitator

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RGGI, Inc. is facilitating this meeting on behalf of the states participating in the second RGGI compliance period to gather stakeholder input for the states' program review. To support the program review, the states have been gathering analytical material on topics that states may address in the program review, developing revised electricity sector IPM modeling and have published additional materials for comment such as a whitepaper on emissions reductions from 2005 to 2009, and held four stakeholder meetings/learning sessions. All materials are available at: http://www.rggi.org/design/program_review/materials_by_topic.

Learning Sessions provide independent expert analysis on topics that the states may address in program review. This meeting will include discussion and solicit information from experts and comments from stakeholders on offsets and cost containment allowance reserve pools as flexibility mechanisms.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS:

Written comments on this subject are encouraged and should be submitted to info@rggi.org by Friday, February 10, 2012 5:00 PM ET. All written comments submitted will be posted at www.rggi.org by February 15, 2012.

As part of the 2012 program review, the states are evaluating the role of offsets as a flexibility mechanism and whether or not changes are needed in how offsets are used in the RGGI program moving forward.

- To date, no offset allowances have been awarded in the RGGI region. The states are evaluating why this has occurred. Potential reasons include the supply of offsets in the region, the price of allowances, and the requirements to approve offset projects. Please share your thoughts on why offsets are not currently in use in the RGGI region.
- The states are considering how to make more offsets available in the RGGI region while maintaining environmental integrity. What would be the opportunities and challenges associated with increasing the supply of offsets, such as geographic expansion, additional project category types, or accepting offset allowances from other offset programs?

The states are also evaluating other flexibility mechanisms, such as a cost containment allowance reserve.

- What are your views on the advantages and disadvantages of using a cost containment allowance reserve as a flexibility mechanism?

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- As the states consider creating a cost containment allowance reserve, what insights can you provide on various design elements?
 - Size of the cost containment allowance reserve
 - Methods to limit the cost containment allowance reserve (e.g. limit the supply or limit the withdrawal)
 - Methods for distribution of cost containment allowance reserve allowances to the market
 - Others?
- What comments do you have on how an offsets program and a cost containment allowance reserve might work together as flexibility mechanisms?

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LOCATION: 90 Church Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10007
(Between Vesey and Barclay Streets)

TIME: Tuesday, January 24, 2012
Registration: 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM
Meeting: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

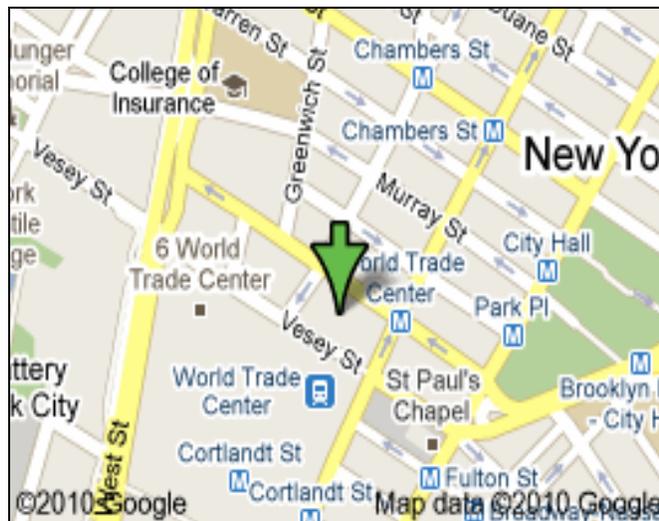
PARTICIPATION: The meeting is open to the public.

PRE-REGISTRATION: Register [online](#).

Registration deadline is Friday, January 20, 2012 at 5:00 PM ET.

SECURITY: Photo identification is required for security check-in.

MAP:



REMOTE ACCESS DETAILS:

Remote Audio Access: (800) 937-4791

Remote Visual Access: <http://www.webdialogs.com>
Conference ID: 78425
Technical Support: 1-888-376-0105

Remote participants should dial the telephone line to hear the presentations and visual access will be provided via a webinar application. No audio will provided via the webinar application. Remote participants will be able to submit questions and comments via the webinar chat feature.