

Statement of Massachusetts Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Richard K. Sullivan Jr. in Response to the Announcement of Governor Christie that New Jersey Will Cease Its Participation in RGGI

May 27, 2011 – “Launched in Massachusetts in 2008, RGGI is a successful market-based cap and trade program - funding energy efficiency programs that save households and businesses on electric bills, contributing to a doubling in the number of energy efficiency-related jobs since 2007, and helping Massachusetts become more energy independent. In the past two years, Massachusetts has received more than \$136 million through RGGI carbon allowance auctions – providing critical funding during difficult state budgetary times to implement energy efficiency programs that improve building performance, comfort, and affordability for individuals, businesses, and municipalities. We invested RGGI proceeds in green job training programs and in approximately \$20 million in grants for 53 new “Green Communities” across the state - lowering energy costs for municipalities squeezed by declining budgets.”

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