



ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE

finding the ways that work

Fred Krupp · President

October 12, 2005

Governor Richard J. Codey  
Office of the Governor  
The State House, P.O. Box 001  
Trenton, NJ 08625

RE: Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Model Rule

Dear Governor Codey:

On behalf of Environmental Defense, I write to express our strong support for the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) program and to urge you and the other RGGI Governors to complete the agreement on the proposal quickly so that the model rule can be acted upon by the states in a timely fashion. We commend your leadership on this issue and think that RGGI will serve as a model for the entire nation.

Environmental Defense would like to praise the RGGI States for the public process they used to develop the program. Although we have not seen the final details of the proposed package plan, we generally support the direction of the discussions and feel confident that we can support the final outcome. In Environmental Defense's view climate change is one of the greatest threats to the health and welfare of the planet. At the G-8 summit this past summer, the world's leaders recognized that the climate change science was sufficiently settled to warrant action now. Although there are some things in the plan that we might have designed differently, in our view RGGI will result in real reductions at low costs. The current draft is good enough to be approved by all the Governors and any concerns are relatively minor and do not justify any further delay in implementation.

As the program is implemented, RGGI will help the citizens and businesses in New Jersey and the region adjust to climate change constraints. We believe that by making this transition now, the RGGI region will be better positioned over time to begin the long-term task of making significant emission reductions without harming continued economic prosperity. As such, we encourage you to complete the agreement quickly and we look forward to working with you and your staff to enact the program in New Jersey.

Yours truly,