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**RGGI States Congratulate California on the
Launch of Its First Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Allowance Auction**

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The [Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative \(RGGI\)](#) states congratulate the State of California on its first auction of GHG allowances. The nine RGGI states – Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont – commend California on this important step forward in the implementation of their greenhouse gas pollution reduction program, which seeks to return the state to 1990 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

“Since holding the nation’s first carbon dioxide emission allowance auction in 2008, the East Coast states participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative have demonstrated that market-based mechanisms are a cost-effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower customer utility bills through energy efficiency, and support the development of cleaner electrical generation,” said [Collin P. O’Mara](#), Secretary of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and Chair of RGGI, Inc. “We congratulate California as the state demonstrates once again national leadership as it conducts its first auction of allowances for greenhouse gas emissions and seizes additional economic, environmental, and consumer benefits from a clean energy future.”