



Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, Inc.  
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## **RGGI, Inc. Announces New Chair and Executive Committee Members**

NEW YORK— Kelly Speakes-Backman, current Chair of the RGGI, Inc. Board of Directors and Commissioner of the Maryland Public Service Commission, today announced Katie Dykes, Deputy Commissioner for Energy at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, as the new RGGI, Inc. Chair.

The new Chair and new Executive Committee members will begin their positions tomorrow with their terms ending on December 31, 2015.

The RGGI, Inc. Executive Committee is represented by:

- Katie Dykes, Deputy Commissioner for Energy at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Chair
- Joseph Martens, Commissioner of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, Vice Chair
- Thomas Burack, Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Secretary
- James Volz, Chairman of the Vermont Public Service Board, Treasurer
- David Small, Secretary of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Member-at-Large

RGGI, Inc.'s Executive Committee acts on behalf of the RGGI, Inc. Board of Directors to oversee the activities of RGGI, Inc. The Committee draws upon commissioners of environmental and energy agencies from across the RGGI region.

"It has been an honor to serve as RGGI, Inc. Chair during such a dynamic time for RGGI" said Commissioner Speakes-Backman. "The program changes implemented last year, including a significant reduction to the RGGI cap, have positioned the program for continued effectiveness. Our nine RGGI states have demonstrated what can be achieved when states work together on solutions to our nation's most pressing environmental challenges."

"RGGI is a proven model for the reduction of power sector carbon pollution. I look forward to serving as Chair in support of a program with an established track record" said Deputy Commissioner Dykes. "Our states have demonstrated that reducing carbon pollution can go hand in hand with building state economics, supporting the energy grid, and benefiting ratepayers."

Biographies of Executive Committee members and of the entire Board of Directors are available at: <http://www.rggi.org/rggi/board>.

## **About the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative**

The Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states participating in the second RGGI control period (Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont) have implemented the first mandatory market-based regulatory program in the U.S. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The 2015 RGGI cap is 88.7 million short tons. The RGGI cap then declines 2.5 percent each year until 2020. The RGGI states also include interim adjustments to the RGGI cap to account for banked CO<sub>2</sub> allowances. The 2015 RGGI adjusted cap is 66.8 million short tons.

RGGI is composed of individual CO<sub>2</sub> budget trading programs in each state, based on each state's independent legal authority. A CO<sub>2</sub> allowance represents a limited authorization to emit one short ton of CO<sub>2</sub>, as issued by a respective state. A regulated power plant must hold CO<sub>2</sub> allowances equal to its emissions for each three-year control period. RGGI's third control period began on January 1, 2015 and extends through December 31, 2017. For more information visit [www.rggi.org](http://www.rggi.org)

## **About Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, Inc.**

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, Inc. (RGGI, Inc.) was created to provide technical and administrative services to the states participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. RGGI, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For more information, visit: [www.rggi.org/rggi](http://www.rggi.org/rggi).