



Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, Inc.
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2018 RGGI Investments Generate Environmental and Economic Benefits *\$248 Million Invested in Strategic Energy and Consumer Benefit Programs*

The ten states of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) today released a report tracking the investment of proceeds generated from RGGI's regional CO₂ allowance auctions. The report tracks investments of RGGI proceeds in 2018, providing state-specific success stories and program highlights. The RGGI states have individual discretion over how to invest proceeds according to state-specific goals. Accordingly, states direct funds to a wide variety of programs, touching all aspects of the energy sector.

In 2018, \$248 million in RGGI proceeds were invested in programs including energy efficiency, clean and renewable energy, greenhouse gas abatement, and direct bill assistance. Over their lifetime, these 2018 investments are projected to provide participating households and businesses with \$2 billion in energy bill savings and avoid the emission of 4.6 million short tons of CO₂.

The largest share of the investments was directed to energy efficiency, with 38% of the 2018 total. Greenhouse gas abatement programs, which include carbon-reducing beneficial electrification projects, received 20% of 2018 investments. 19% of investments were directed to clean and renewable energy programs, with direct bill assistance receiving 16%. For more details on both 2018 and cumulative investments and benefits, see the full report, [Investment of RGGI Proceeds in 2018](#).

"This latest report shows how RGGI proceeds strengthen local economies across participating states," said Martin Suuberg, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and Chair of the RGGI, Inc. Board of Directors. "In my home state of Massachusetts, RGGI funds deliver energy savings to homes and businesses, accelerate transportation electrification, and empower municipalities to implement clean energy projects through Green Communities grants. Communities and businesses alike benefit from the opportunities created by RGGI's cap-and-invest model."

"RGGI states reap the rewards of smart investments that bolster economic resilience while achieving environmental benefits," said Ben Grumbles, Secretary of the Environment in Maryland and Vice Chair of the RGGI, Inc. Board of Directors. "The 2018 report provides examples of success across all participating states, with states deploying funds to reduce bills, create jobs, boost clean energy, and advance our region's transition to a vibrant, low-carbon economy."

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About the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

The New England and Mid-Atlantic states participating in the fourth RGGI control period (Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, 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 2020 RGGI cap is 96.2 million short tons. The RGGI states also include interim adjustments to the RGGI cap to account for banked CO₂ allowances. The 2020 RGGI adjusted cap is 74.3 million short tons.

RGGI is composed of individual CO₂ budget trading programs in each state, based on each state's independent legal authority. A CO₂ allowance represents a limited authorization to emit one short ton of CO₂, as issued by a respective state. A regulated power plant must hold CO₂ allowances equal to its emissions for each three-year control period. RGGI's fourth control period began on January 1, 2018 and extends through December 31, 2020. For more information, visit 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