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## **2019 RGGI Investments Generate Environmental and Economic Benefits** *\$217 Million Invested in Strategic Energy and Consumer Benefit Programs*

The eleven states of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) today released a report tracking the investment of proceeds generated from RGGI's regional CO<sub>2</sub> allowance auctions. The report tracks investments of RGGI proceeds in 2019, 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 2019, \$217 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 2019 investments are projected to provide participating households and businesses with \$1.3 billion in energy bill savings and avoid the emission of 2.5 million short tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The largest share of the investments was directed to energy efficiency, with 40% of the 2019 total. Other categories receiving significant investments include direct bill assistance, clean and renewable energy programs, and greenhouse gas abatement programs, including beneficial electrification projects. For more details on both 2019 and cumulative investments and benefits, see the full report, [Investment of RGGI Proceeds in 2019](#).

"The 2019 report shows that RGGI states are leading the transition to a clean energy future while making investments that strengthen local economies, deliver energy savings, and provide targeted assistance to low-income communities throughout the RGGI region," said Martin Suuberg, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and Chair of the RGGI, Inc. Board of Directors. "In Massachusetts, homes and businesses alike benefit from the energy savings created by RGGI's cap-and-invest model, and RGGI funds are helping to accelerate the transition to a clean, electrified transportation sector."

"RGGI states' investments improve economic resilience while creating community and environmental benefits across the participating states," said Ben Grumbles, Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment and Vice Chair of the RGGI, Inc. Board of Directors. "The latest proceeds report shows how RGGI funds create jobs, promote renewable energy, and advance a vibrant, low-carbon future. In my home state of Maryland, RGGI reinvestment helps ensure an affordable, reliable, and clean energy supply for our communities."

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## **About the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)**

The Eastern states participating in the fifth RGGI control period (Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia) have implemented the first mandatory market-based regulatory program in the U.S. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The 2021 RGGI cap is 119.8 million short tons. The RGGI states also include interim adjustments to the RGGI cap to account for banked CO<sub>2</sub> allowances. The 2021 RGGI adjusted cap is 100.7 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 provide CO<sub>2</sub> allowances equal to its emissions for each three-year control period. RGGI's fifth control period began on January 1, 2021 and extends through December 31, 2023. For more information visit [www.rggi.org](http://www.rggi.org).

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

The 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-inc/contact](http://www.rggi.org/rggi-inc/contact).