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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Statement on Re-Proposed Virginia Greenhouse Gas Rule**

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality yesterday made public a [revised draft proposed regulation](#) to reduce greenhouse gases, which will be presented to the state's Air Pollution Control Board on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>.

The RGGI states will review this revised draft rule in light of the comments our states previously provided. In particular, the RGGI states recognize that this revised rule contains a reduced CO<sub>2</sub> allowance budget, a change in line with our earlier comments that opportunities existed to make the rule more ambitious. The RGGI states will continue discussions with Virginia following the outcome of the Air Pollution Control Board meeting.

Throughout this process, the RGGI states have highlighted the many benefits of a broader trading market and applaud Virginia's progress towards establishing a market-based program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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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 York, Rhode Island, and Vermont) have implemented the first mandatory market-based regulatory program in the U.S. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The 2018 RGGI cap is 82.2 million short tons. The RGGI states also include interim adjustments to the RGGI cap to account for banked CO<sub>2</sub> allowances. The 2018 RGGI adjusted cap is 60.3 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 fourth control period began on January 1, 2018 and extends through December 31, 2020. For more information visit [www.rrgi.org](http://www.rrgi.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.rrgi.org/rggi-inc/contact](http://www.rrgi.org/rggi-inc/contact)