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RGGI States Release Fifth Control Period Compliance Report

99.5 Percent of Sources and 99.9 Percent of Covered Emissions in Compliance

April 2, 2024 — The participating states in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) today released the <u>Compliance Summary Report</u> for RGGI's fifth three-year control period. As of today, the report finds that 221 of the 222 power plants subject to RGGI requirements (CO₂ budget sources), or 99.5 percent, have met their compliance obligations. In terms of emissions, 99.9 percent of covered power sector emissions were in compliance.

The RGGI program requires fossil fuel-fired electricity generators with nameplate capacity equal to or greater than 25 MW¹ to purchase and hold one carbon dioxide (CO₂) allowance for each short ton of CO₂ emitted during the three-year control period. The RGGI fifth control period began on January 1, 2021 and ended on December 31, 2023.

Compliance takes place in stages during each three-year control period. The first two years are interim compliance periods, for which entities are required to provide allowances equal to half of their emissions for each one-year period. In this case, during the fifth control period, interim compliance was conducted for the years 2021 and 2022, for the CO₂ budget sources in the eleven states² enforcing compliance during those two years. After the conclusion of the three-year period, CO₂ budget sources are required to provide allowances equal to the remainder of their emissions for the entire three-year period.

To establish compliance, the number of allowances held in each compliance entity's RGGI CO₂ Allowance Tracking System (RGGI COATS) compliance account is compared with its CO₂ compliance obligation, and then provided to the states for compliance evaluation. The release of the <u>Compliance Summary Report</u> marks the conclusion of that evaluation.

"For over fifteen years RGGI has served as a model for achieving efficient emission reductions through effective energy policy," said Katie Dykes, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and Chair of the RGGI, Inc. Board of Directors. "RGGI's robust program design leads to strong compliance and delivers benefits to communities, businesses, and families across the region."

¹ In New York, generators with nameplate capacity sized 15 MW or greater are covered under the state's RGGI regulation.

² Pennsylvania began participating in RGGI in July 2022. However, due to on-going litigation, the state has been prohibited from selling allowances and enforcing compliance.

"Results from the fifth control period compliance show that RGGI is effectively regulating emissions across the participating states," said Serena McIlwain, Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment and Vice Chair of the RGGI, Inc. Board of Directors. "We look forward to RGGI's continued success in the sixth control period and beyond."

About the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)

The RGGI participating states have implemented the first mandatory market-based regulatory program in the U.S. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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 sixth control period began on January 1, 2024 and extends through December 31, 2026. For more information visit 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.