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#### 21st Century Transportation Technology & Policy

The Future of Transportation Symposium Innovation, Technology & Policy

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#### **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative - RGGI**

Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states cap and reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the power sector

- Power plants 25 MW or greater to hold one CO<sub>2</sub> allowance for each ton of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Three-year control periods; currently in fourth control period (2018-2021)

 $CO_2$  Cap: 86.5 million short tons in 2016, and declines 2.5 percent each year until 2020; in 2021 will be equal to 75,147,784 tons and will decline by 2.275 million tons of CO2 per year thereafter, resulting in a total 30% reduction in the regional cap from 2020 to 2030.

- Two interim adjustments to the cap (2014-2020) to account for banked allowances; third adjustment for banked allowances at end of 2020 for pre-2021 banked allowances
- 2016 RGGI adjusted cap is 64.6 million short tons
- Cost containment reserve (CCR) of 10 million allowances then 10% of regional cap starting in 2021 (\$13 in 2021)

#### **RGGI State Emissions Reductions** and Economic Growth



Source: 2015 RGGI Proceeds Report

## **RGGI Mechanics in Brief**

#### **Quarterly regional CO<sub>2</sub> allowance auctions**

- CO<sub>2</sub> allowances are issued by each state
- Compliance occurs at the state level
- One tradable CO<sub>2</sub> allowance market CO<sub>2</sub> allowances are fungible across the multi-state region
- CO<sub>2</sub> allowances issued by any participating state can be used for compliance in any of the participating states

#### Auction proceeds invested by the states

#### **Emissions Containment Reserve (ECR) in 2021 at \$6**

# Centralized allowance tracking and emissions tracking platform (RGGI COATS)

Market monitoring of CO<sub>2</sub> allowance market

## **RGGI's Market-Based System**

CO<sub>2</sub> allowance auctions are open to all prequalified bidders

After nine years, no evidence of anti-competitive conduct

38 quarterly auctions held from September 2008 through 2017

- Total of 918 million CO<sub>2</sub> allowances sold
- \$2,835,865,291 in cumulative proceeds

# CO<sub>2</sub> allowance auction clearing prices have ranged from \$1.86 to \$7.50.

#### **RGGI's Allowance Investments**



Source: RGGI 2015 Proceeds Reports

#### **RGGI's Re-Investment**

	Table 1: Benefits of 2015 RGGI Investments			
		Category	Annual Benefits of 2015 Investments	Lifetime Benefits of 2015 Investments
-		Participating Households	161,805 (Programs)* 1.5 million (Bill Assistance)	N/A
	•	Participating Businesses	6,060 (Programs)* 37,396 (Bill Assistance)	N/A
	×	Workers Trained	552	N/A
		Short Tons CO <sub>2</sub> Avoided	298,410	5.3 million
		Equiv. Cars Off Road	57,184	1.0 million
	Ŷ	Megawatt-Hours Saved	505,761 MWh	9.0 million MWh
	0	MMBtu Saved	1.5 million MMBtu	28.0 million MMBtu
		Energy Bill Savings	\$154.5 million	\$2.31 billion
*Participants in all programs other than direct bill assistance.				

Source: RGGI 2015 Proceeds Report

## **Electric Vehicle Energy Impact**



Source: NW Energy Coalition research paper, "Building "good load" to reduce carbon emissions", 2016

#### How would the States Cap Transportation Emissions? A Modified RGGI Model

Will require transportation officials, legislative and stakeholders

Transportation and Climate Initiative – 12 Northeast and MidAtlantic States https://www.transportationandclimate.org/

#### **Issues to Resolve**

Transportation Funding for roads, bridges, winter operations, etc.

Transportation Stakeholders Cultural Suburban SUV Culture Rural Truck Culture Cost Public Charging Infrastructure including fast chargers for long-distance

Rate Design

#### **Price Can Influence When EVs Are Charged**





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#### **Benefits of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Transportation Modernization Environmental Grid Benefits** Consumer **Benefits Benefits** Save drivers Reduce local, Integrate other Distributed regional and money global pollution Resources Give Water and Needs to customers habitat choice and Benefit Utilities too benefits control

GDP and Pollution



## Conclusions

- Clean car market transformation is happening
- Substantial consumer and environmental benefits
- Barriers need to be addressed in the long-run with strategies that buy in a broad group of transportation stakeholders
- Leadership from the top matters
- Regional cooperation with leadership from the top – is what will lead to transformation

#### Resources

- Smart Rate Design for a Smart Future (WUTC)
- Quantifying the Air Quality Impacts of Energy Efficiency Policies and Programs
- Beneficial Electrification blog post series
- <u>
   ■ Teaching the Duck to Fly
   </u>
   ■
- Opportunity Knocks for Beneficial Electrification webinar



#### **About RAP**

The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)<sup>®</sup> is an independent, non-partisan, non-governmental organization dedicated to accelerating the transition to a clean, reliable, and efficient energy future.

#### Learn more about our work at raponline.org



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