

Addressing Virginia's Moral Responsibility

# Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (better known as “RGGI” or “Reggie”) is a market-based partnership with neighboring states designed to take action now to lower energy costs, reduce pollution and bolster Virginia's clean energy economy.



## What joining RGGI means for Virginia

Taking speedy action to **reduce damage to public health and natural resources.**

Immediately helping to **lower energy costs** by investing in energy efficient homes and building resiliency on the coast.

Incentivizing electric monopolies to **move towards 100% renewables** by having them pay for the pollution they create.

**Creating clean energy jobs** in Virginia.

Finally **addressing our moral responsibility** to protect a safe and healthy place to live for our family and future generations.

## How RGGI Works

### Carbon Pollution Limits and Incentives

- RGGI states set a carbon pollution limit that would lower annually.
- Power plants are incentivized to build cleaner sources of energy like solar or wind, and to train their workforce in renewables.

### Clean Energy Investments

- With the money from the pollution credits, RGGI states invest in low-income home weatherization programs that will decrease energy bills.
- Further, this revenue will increase investment in wind and solar, preparing coastal communities from flooding.

### Holding Monopolies Accountable

- Electric monopolies that do not comply with carbon limits will have to buy allowances for their pollutants.
- Right now, polluters destroy our land, air and water without paying a tangible price. RGGI requires them to pay for the damage they cause to our climate.

By joining RGGI, Virginia can lower energy bills, and hold utility monopolies accountable while investing in renewable energy, energy efficient homes and coastal protection programs.

## Overwhelming Public Support

76%

76% of Virginia voters support requiring energy companies to pay for the pollution they put in the air.

73%

73% think that Virginia should prioritize investing in renewable resources like wind and solar.

61%

61% think that Virginia should join the RGGI plan to curb carbon pollution.