



Stepping Up to Address Climate Change
Spring 2007 Local Government Workshop

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Climate Change Team
New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation

Overview of Session

- States Stepping Up to Take Action
– Lois New
- Climate Change Science
– Dr. Art DeGaetano
- How Communities Are Preparing
– Cities for Climate Protection – Jim Yienger
– Hudson Valley Examples – Kristin Marcell
- Moving Forward in Western NY
– Lois New

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Preview of State Action

- A Word on Climate Change Science
- Understanding What is at Stake, Environmentally, Economically & Strategically
- Quick Review of State Action to Address Climate Change
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
- Western States Regional Initiative

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Climate Science

We know enough to act now



Joint National Academies of Science Statement June 2005

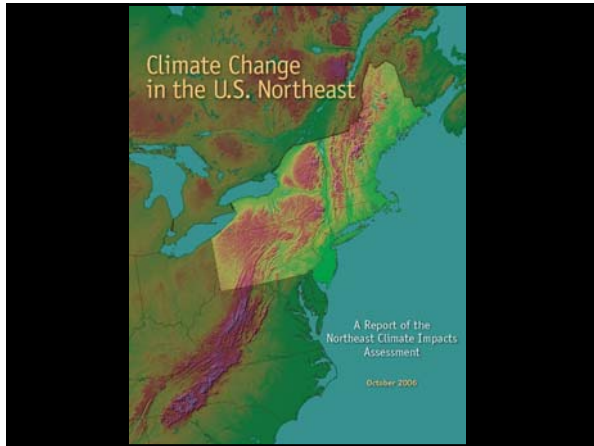
“The scientific understanding of climate change is now sufficiently clear to justify nations taking prompt action.”



Climate Impacts

Understanding What's at Stake





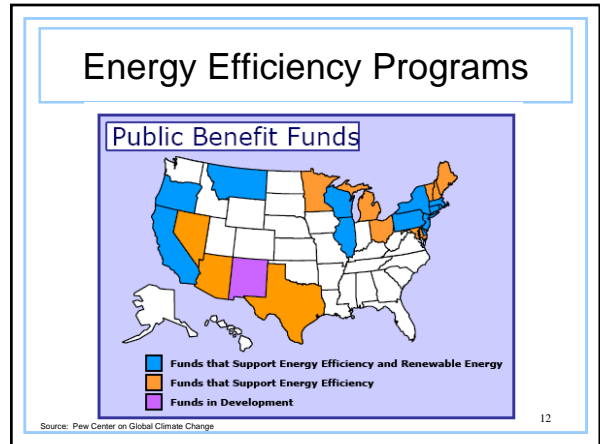
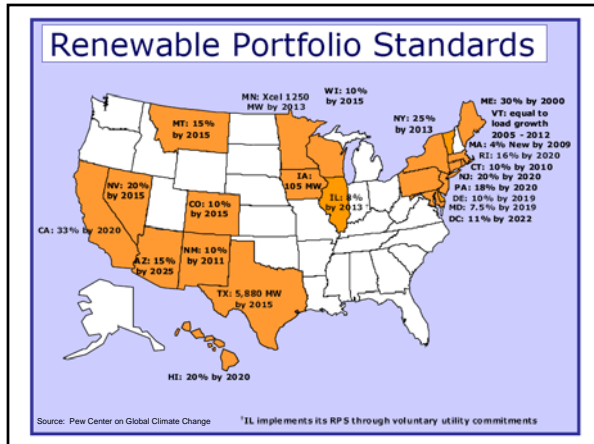
New York's Oil & Gas Consumption Means Billions Leave the State Each Year

NY Spent \$55 Billion on Energy in 2005

State Climate Policies

Climate and Energy Policy Options

- Reduce Energy Consumption
- Promote Non-Carbon-Emitting Energy
- De-Carbonize Fossil Fuel Energy
- Increase Sequestration in Carbon "Sinks"



Vehicle Tailpipe Standards

- California Statute & Federal Clean Air Act
- Approximately 30% Reduction by 2016
- States (12) that have adopted or are poised to adopt: AZ, CA, CT, MA, ME, NJ, NY, OR, PA, RI, VT, WA
- Maybe NM?

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Binding Emissions Caps

- Early Efforts in MA & NH on power plants
- The Northeast Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) on Power Plants—December 2005
- California Economy-Wide Cap—Summer 2006
- Arizona's Executive Order calls for cap-and-trade program

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Northeast Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative



The Nation's First Mandatory Cap-and-Trade Program for Carbon Dioxide

*Launch Date:
Jan. 1, 2009*



The Region at a Glance

(CT, DE, ME, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI & VT)



- 1 in 5 States participates in RGGI.
- 48.8 million people—
(16% of US Population)
- 10% of U.S. Emissions
- 8th largest emitter in the world
- \$2.4 trillion economy (19% of U.S.)

RGGI Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

An Initiative of the Northeast & Mid-Atlantic States of the U.S.

Background



- April 2003 Invitation
- December 2005 Memorandum of Understanding (7 States)
- Model Rule Complete '06
- MA & RI signed
- Maryland Joined
- States putting rules in place for 2009 start

Reduction Requirements

- Stabilize emissions at current levels through 2014;
- then reduce by 10% by 2019
- ~13% below 1990 levels
- ~35% below business as usual



California and RGGI

- MOU among RGGI States Welcomes Participation by Additional States
- RGGI + California =
 - 24% of U.S. Population
 - 28% of U.S. Economy
 - 3rd Largest World Economy
 - 15% of U.S. Emissions
 - 6th Largest Emitter Worldwide



Western Regional Climate Action Initiative

WeGGle?

- 5 States—Arizona, California, New Mexico, Oregon & Washington
- 6 months: regional reduction goal
- 18 months: “regional market-based, multi-sector mechanism”



States Actions

- Cannot Ignore the Science and Potential Impacts of Climate Change
- Good Environmental, Energy & Economic Reasons to Act Now
- States have been the centers of Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Investments
- States are now implementing binding policies and emissions caps

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