

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT OF 2009 SUMMARY**

The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act of 2009 (GGRA) was signed into law as part of Governor O'Malley's successful Smart, Green and Growing initiative. The GGRA legislation commits the State to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions 25 percent by 2020. The GGRA's reduction goal evolved from the MD Commission on Climate Change's Climate Action Plan, which was released in August 2008 and can be viewed at <http://www.mde.state.md.us/Air/climatechange/index.asp>.



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KEY IMPLEMENTATION DATES

<b>2011</b>	<p>MDE must develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statewide GHG emissions inventory</li> <li>• “Business as usual” emissions projection for 2020</li> <li>• Proposed GHG emission reduction plan for public comment</li> </ul>
<b>2012</b>	<p>Adopt a final GHG emission reduction plan that ensures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No loss of existing manufacturing jobs</li> <li>• Net increase in jobs and net economic benefit</li> <li>• New green jobs in energy and low carbon technology fields</li> <li>• No adverse impact on reliability and affordability of electricity and fuel supplies</li> <li>• Preservation of authority to regulate manufacturing sector through RGGI expansion</li> <li>• MD regulation of manufacturing sector deferred until after 2016 legislative review if no federal program exists</li> </ul>
<b>2015</b>	<p>An independent study of the economic impact of requiring GHG emission reductions from manufacturing due to the Governor and General Assembly.</p> <hr/> <p>Report to the Governor and General Assembly due that assesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress toward the 25% emissions reduction</li> <li>• Benefits to the State’s economy, public health, and the environment</li> <li>• Any need for further reductions</li> <li>• The status of any federal GHG reduction program</li> </ul>
<b>2016</b>	<p>Legislature will determine whether to continue, adjust, or eliminate the requirement to achieve a 25% reduction by 2020 through review of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The progress report</li> <li>• The report on economic impacts on manufacturing sector</li> <li>• The requirements of a federal program</li> </ul>
<b>2020</b>	<p>Reduce statewide GHG emissions by 25% from 2006 levels.</p>

For more information contact Renee Fizer, Air Quality Planning Program, at  
410-537-3240 or [rfizer@mde.state.md.us](mailto:rfizer@mde.state.md.us)