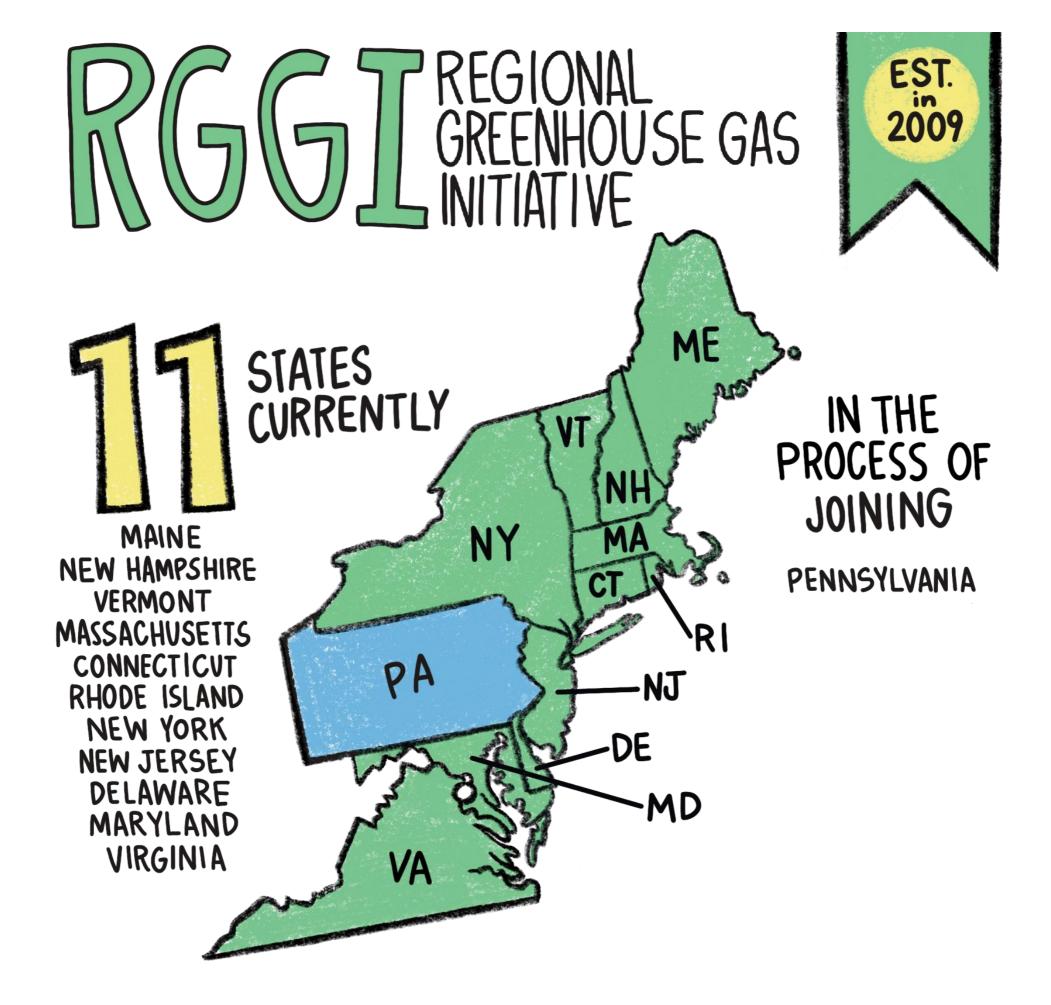
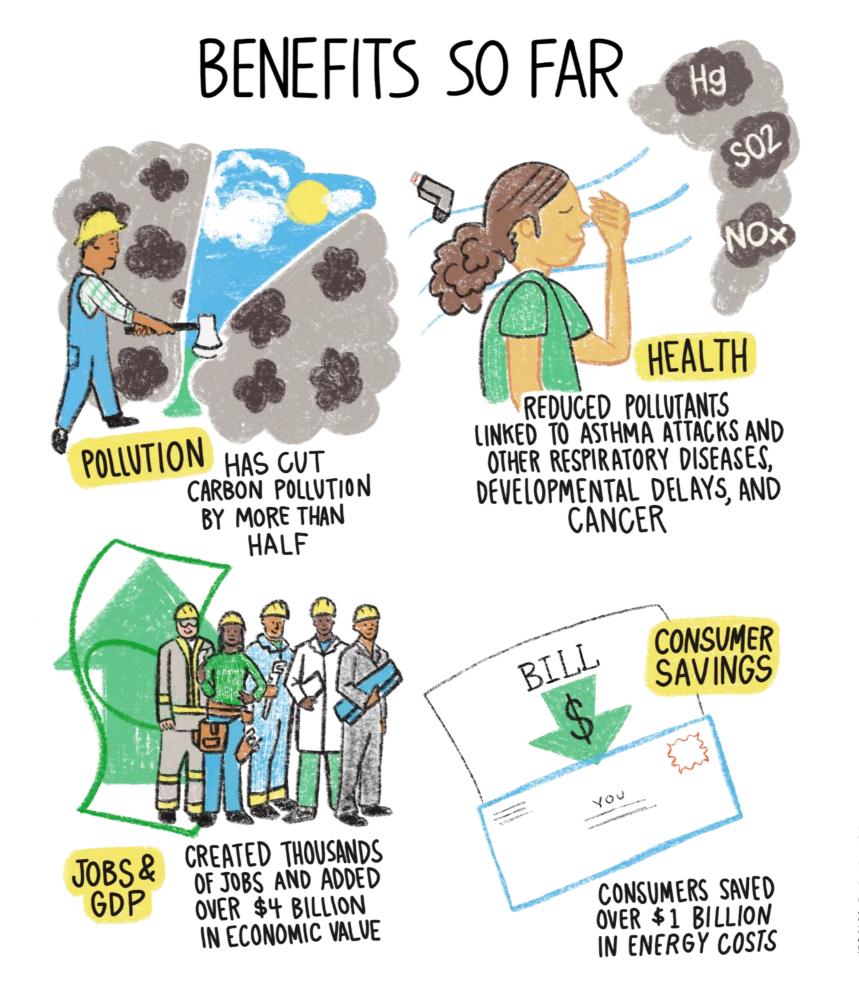
RGGI 2021 PROGRAM REVIEW PRIORITIES



BRUCE HO SENIOR ADVOCATE, CLIMATE & CLEAN ENERGY MAY 18, 2021



JESSICA RUSSO, NRDC

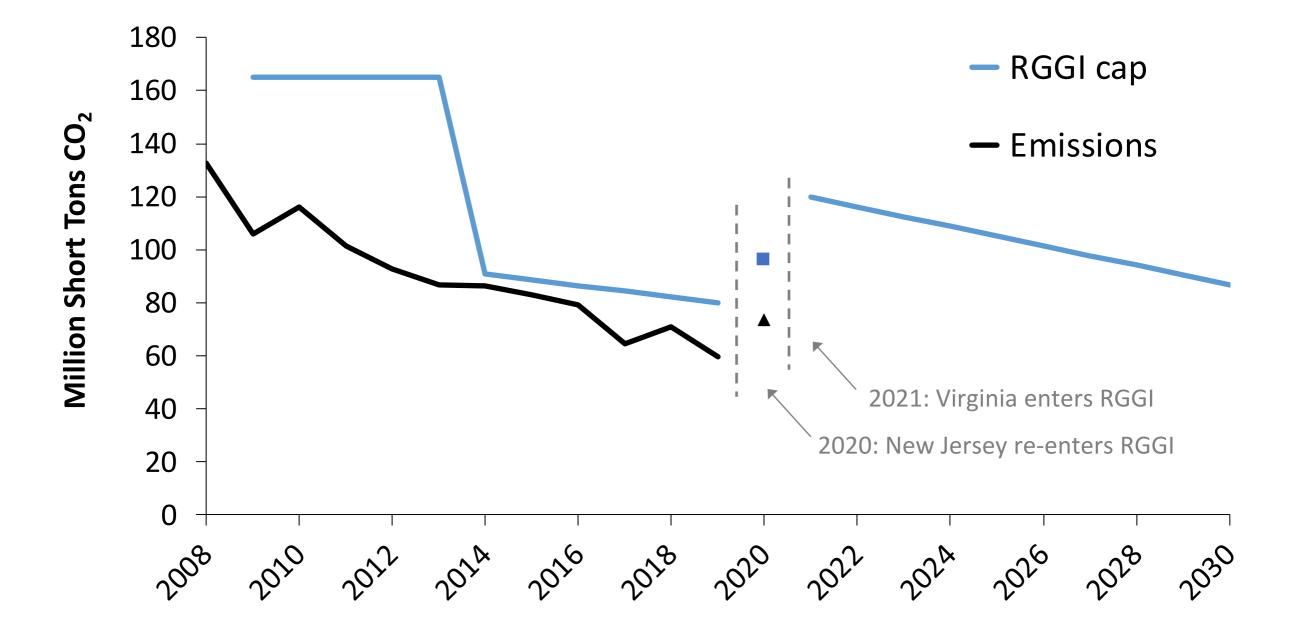


JESSICA RUSSO, NRDC

PROGRAM REVIEW: CONTINUING TO IMPROVE

Strengthening the CO₂ Emissions Cap

• Power sector emissions continue to fall below the cap



Strengthening the CO₂ Emissions Cap (Continued)

- RGGI states are adopting increasingly ambitious economy-wide and power sector GHG targets
- Power sector decarbonization is essential to decarbonizing other sectors, including buildings and transportation
- Need to align RGGI's cap with observed and projected trends, policy targets, and goals

- Need to ensure RGGI aligns with state and regional priorities for equity and environmental justice
- Broaden discussions, priorities, and analyses and bring more voices to the table
- Will require greater, intentional efforts and outreach by RGGI states *before* the program review officially kicks off later this year

Strengthening Other Program Elements

CO₂ Allowance Pricing

- Bring Cost Containment Reserve (CCR) under the cap
- Raise the price floor -- \$2.38/ton is too low
- Evaluate CCR and Emissions Containment Reserve (ECR) price triggers

Enhanced Reporting

- Local air quality and emissions data
- Public health modeling and outcomes
- More granular spending breakdowns and demographics

Strengthening Other Program Elements (Continued)

Emissions Leakage

- Continue to evaluate potential for leakage
- Evaluate leakage control mechanism(s)

Biomass

• Evaluate consistency of RGGI's current biomass provisions with program goals and develop improved standards/regional guidance

THANK YOU!

Questions/Comments? bho@nrdc.org