



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION ACT OF 2009 BILL SUMMARY

Requires the State to reduce Statewide greenhouse gas emissions 25% from 2006 levels by 2020 and adopt final plan to achieve reductions by 2012

GHG Emission Reduction Plan

- By 2011 requires Department of the Environment to:
 - (1) develop a 2006 Statewide greenhouse gas emissions inventory;
 - (2) develop a projected “business as usual” emissions inventory for 2020; and
 - (3) develop and publish for public comment a proposed plan to achieve a 25% emissions reduction by 2020
- Final greenhouse gas emission reduction plan must be adopted by 2012, including:
 - (1) regulations implementing all plan measures for which State agencies have existing statutory authority; and
 - (2) timeline for seeking any additional legislative authority necessary to fully implement plan
- Plan must ensure:
 - (1) no loss of existing jobs in the State’s manufacturing sector;
 - (2) a net increase in State jobs and a net economic benefit to the State’s economy;
 - (3) opportunities for new “green” jobs in the energy and low carbon technology fields; and
 - (4) no adverse impact on the reliability and affordability of electricity service and fuel supplies

Regulation of Manufacturing Sector

- Bill preserves State’s authority to regulate manufacturing sector through expansion of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and, in the absence of a federal program, defers other State regulation of manufacturing sector until after the 2016 legislative review required in the bill

- Requires independent study of the economic impact of requiring greenhouse gas emission reductions from the manufacturing sector with report to the Governor and General Assembly by 2015

2016 Legislative Review

- In 2015, Department required to submit report to the Governor and General Assembly on:
 - (1) the State's progress toward achieving the 25% reduction;
 - (2) new and emerging GHG emission reduction technologies;
 - (3) an analysis of overall costs and benefits to State's economy public health and environment of the GHG emission reduction plan;
 - (4) the need for adjustments to the level of required GHG emission reductions and additional control programs; and
 - (5) the status of any federal GHG emission reduction program and any transition by the State from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to a comparable federal cap-and-trade program
- In 2016, the Legislature will review the progress report, the report on economic impacts on manufacturing sector and other information and determine whether to continue, adjust or eliminate the requirement to achieve a 25% reduction by 2020