

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



State of Maine
Paul R. LePage
Governor

March 15, 2017

Senator Thomas B. Saviello, Chair
Representative Ralph L. Tucker, Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0100

Senator David C. Woodsome, Chair
Representative Seth A. Berry, Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0100

RE: Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) 2016 Annual Report

Dear Senator Saviello, Senator Woodsome, Representative Tucker, Representative Berry,
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, and
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology:

Title 38 Maine Revised Statutes (M.R.S.) §580-B, sub-§10, established by Public Law, Chapter 317 of the 123rd Legislature and amended by Public Laws, Chapter 372 of the 124th Legislature and Chapter 369 of the 126th Legislature, directs the Department of Environmental Protection (Department), the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), and the trustees of the Efficiency Maine Trust (the “Trust” or “Efficiency Maine”) to submit a joint report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resource matters and utilities and energy matters by March 15th annually, regarding items related to implementation of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). This letter serves as the annual report and addresses the seven items listed in the statute. This letter also provides an update on the appropriateness of the number of allowances reserved in accordance with the voluntary renewable energy set-aside provisions and a progress report on the development of a fuel switching offset category, as required by Public Law, Chapter 369 of the 126th Legislature.

A. The reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from carbon dioxide budget units, conservation programs funded by the Regional Greenhouse Gas Trust Fund pursuant to Title 35-A, section 10109, and carbon dioxide emissions offset projects.

Reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from carbon dioxide (CO₂) budget units. As a group, CO₂ budget units (RGGI units) located in Maine and throughout the RGGI region have experienced significant reductions in CO₂ emissions from the baseline period (2000 to 2005) both prior to and since the program began with the first auctions in 2008 (see Tables 1 and 2, below). To date, CO₂ emissions from RGGI units have decreased by over 50% from emission levels during the baseline period.

The RGGI program was originally designed to stabilize CO₂ emissions from the RGGI units in the region for the period from 2009 through 2014. Thereafter, beginning in 2015 and extending to 2018, the annual cap on emissions was to have been reduced by 2.5% per year to achieve a 10% reduction in emissions from baseline levels. Due to the achievement of greater reductions in CO₂ emissions from RGGI units than originally anticipated, the State of Maine, along with the other RGGI participating states, made program changes to adjust the annual cap downward in 2014 and beyond to build on these significant emission reduction achievements. For the calendar year 2014, the annual cap for the region was reduced from 165 million to 91 million allowances, representing a 45% reduction in the cap. Maine's share of the adjusted regional annual cap is 3.6%, representing approximately 3.3 million allowances in 2014. The 91 million allowance annual cap was further adjusted to address a surplus of unused allowances residing in the market following the first and second three-year compliance periods, which closed at the end of 2011 and at the end of 2014, respectively. The cap is being reduced gradually at the originally planned rate of 2.5% per year between 2015 and 2020. The RGGI participating states are in the process of conducting another program review, which may result in further changes to one or more elements of the program.

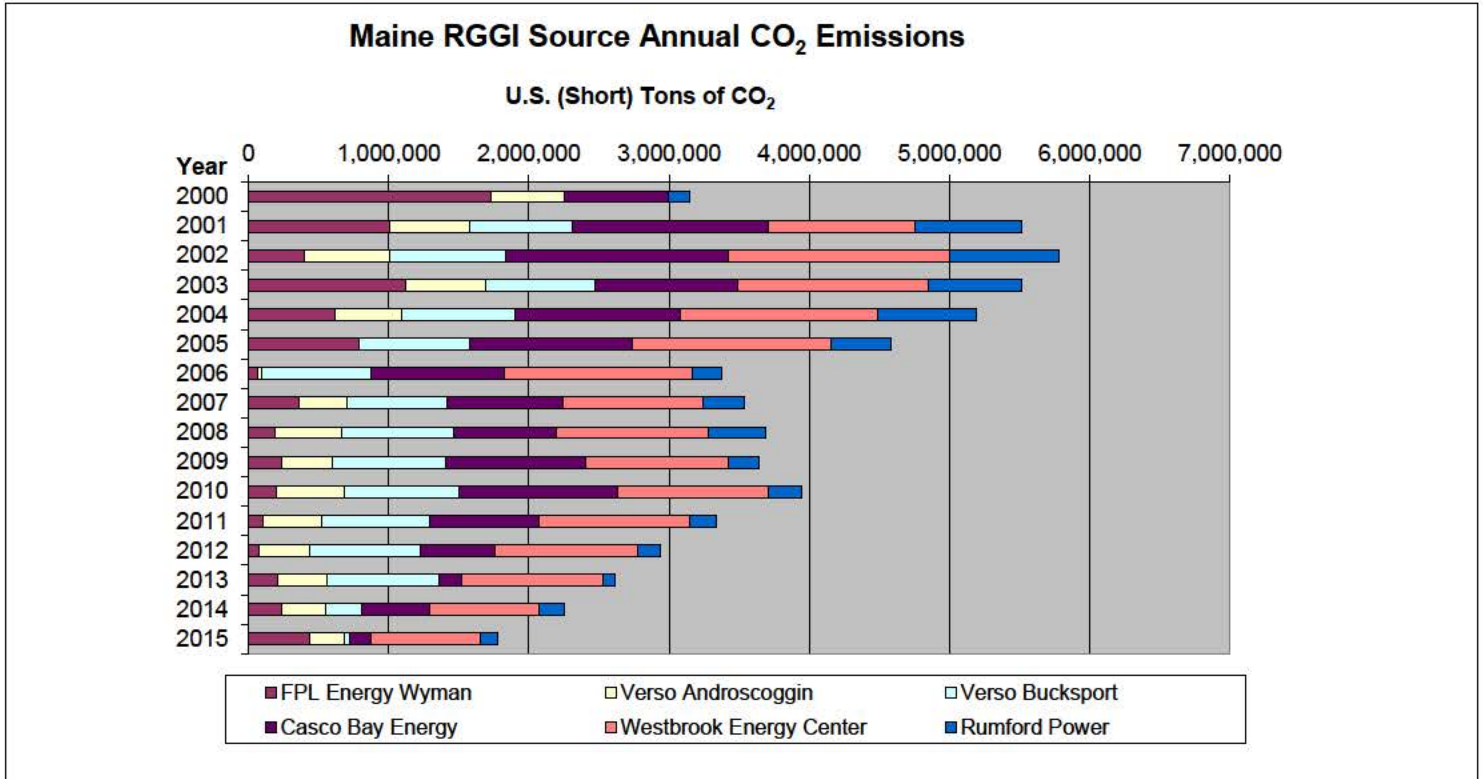
Table 1, on the following page, shows CO₂ emissions data from Maine's RGGI units from 2000 thru 2015. Maine's RGGI units consist of the following facilities:

- FPL Energy Wyman, an 850 MW oil-fired power plant owned and operated by NextEra Energy Resources and located on Cousins Island in Yarmouth, Maine. This facility is currently functioning as a peaking unit that operates during times of high electricity demand when called on by ISO-New England.
- Androscoggin Energy, a 164 MW combined cycle natural gas-fired cogeneration power plant owned and operated by Verso Androscoggin LLC and located adjacent to the Verso Androscoggin paper mill in Jay, Maine.
- Bucksport Clean Energy, a 187 MW combined cycle/simple cycle natural gas-fired power plant owned and operated by Bucksport Generation LLC and located at the former Verso Bucksport paper mill in Bucksport, Maine. This facility is currently functioning as a simple cycle peaking unit that operates during times of high electricity demand when called upon by ISO-New England.
- Maine Independence Station, a 550 MW combined cycle natural gas-fired power plant owned and operated by Casco Bay Energy Company LLC and located in Veazie, Maine.
- Westbrook Energy Center, a 565 MW combined cycle gas turbine power plant owned and operated by Calpine Corporation and located in Westbrook, Maine.

- Rumford Power, a 275 MW combined cycle natural gas-fired power plant owned and operated by Emera Energy and located in Rumford, Maine.

Emissions for 2016 are projected to continue on a downward trend; however, 2016 emissions data will not be quality-assured until the second quarter of 2017, so they are not included in this table.

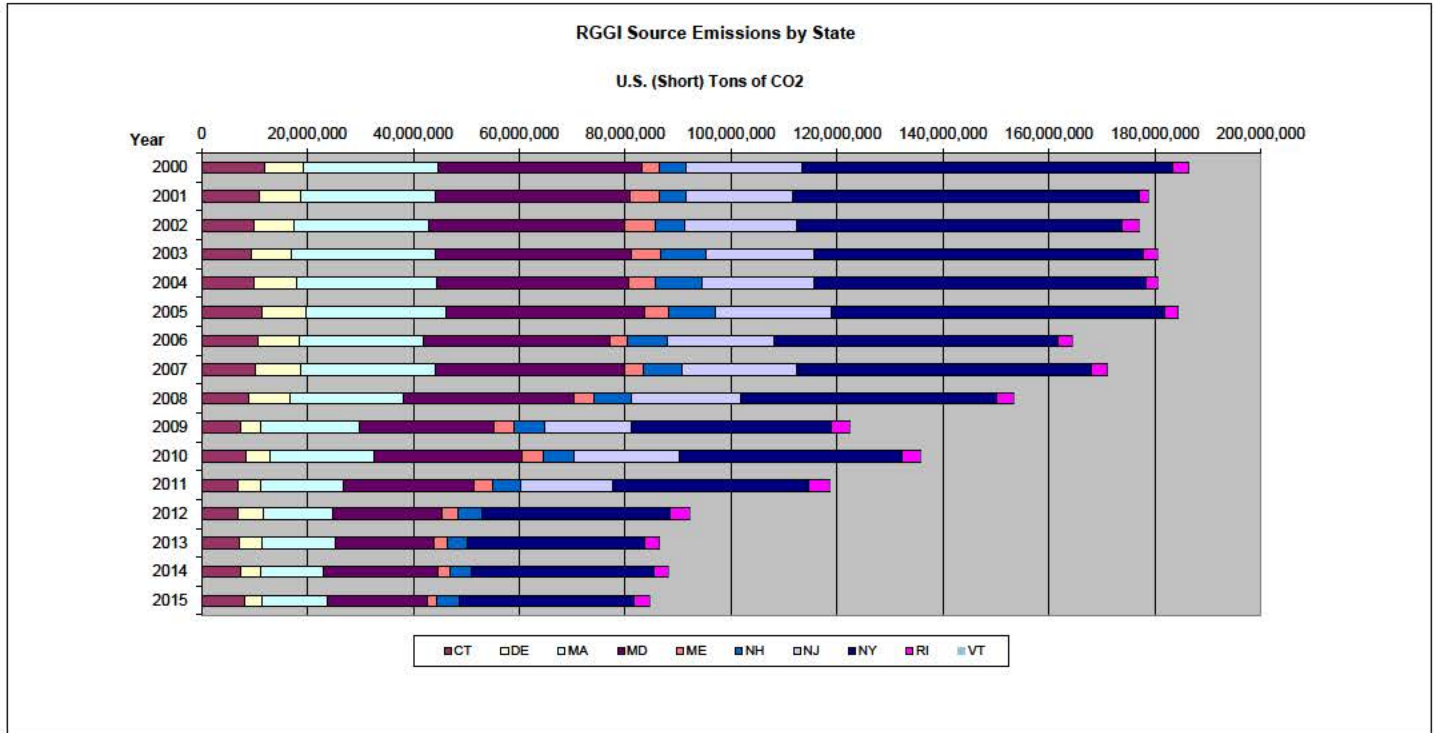
Table 1



Maine RGGI Source Annual CO ₂ Emissions (U.S. Tons)							
Year	FPL Energy Wyman	Verso Androscoggin	Verso Bucksport	Casco Bay Energy	Westbrook Energy Center	Rumford Power	Annual Totals
2000	1,731,846	519,770	0	744,689	0	153,306	3,149,611
2001	1,010,729	565,951	731,450	1,402,914	1,042,637	762,634	5,516,315
2002	397,062	608,960	829,490	1,582,011	1,580,945	782,900	5,781,368
2003	1,119,510	571,181	778,527	1,025,612	1,358,157	661,740	5,514,727
2004	616,030	472,481	810,749	1,178,901	1,412,282	701,496	5,191,939
2005	788,209	1,019	792,796	1,153,173	1,419,619	432,298	4,587,114
2006	70,853	24,826	780,609	946,041	1,341,636	207,857	3,371,822
2007	357,638	349,532	708,412	831,251	991,719	294,645	3,533,197
2008	185,915	481,163	796,139	730,736	1,090,087	407,238	3,691,278
2009	242,371	357,730	809,077	995,235	1,015,132	223,948	3,643,493
2010	198,691	489,273	813,064	1,130,402	1,079,445	232,583	3,943,458
2011	107,642	416,387	766,548	778,158	1,081,176	187,549	3,337,460
2012	77,825	357,371	787,071	532,676	1,018,917	166,212	2,940,072
2013	211,641	352,862	793,406	161,783	1,011,082	81,649	2,612,423
2014	231,610	318,997	259,499	485,857	775,593	182,988	2,254,544
2015	434,966	248,856	40,780	147,372	778,409	127,963	1,778,346

Table 2 shows CO₂ emissions data from all RGGI units in the region, by state, from 2000 thru 2015. Emissions data for 2016 will not be quality-assured until the second quarter of 2017, so they are not included in this table.

Table 2



RGGI Source Annual CO₂ Emissions by State (U.S. Tons)											
Year	CT	DE	MA	MD	ME	NH	NJ	NY	RI	VT	ANNUAL TOTALS
2000	11,977,434	7,308,248	25,452,680	38,446,856	3,156,292	5,178,731	21,954,959	69,809,356	2,959,594	24,914	186,269,063
2001	11,005,310	7,612,366	25,400,430	36,980,555	5,517,285	4,862,445	20,177,621	65,553,672	1,782,110	22,015	178,913,809
2002	9,842,414	7,616,896	25,278,273	37,084,544	5,784,563	5,556,992	21,145,667	61,367,406	3,254,015	5,171	176,935,941
2003	9,273,759	7,628,367	27,218,204	37,064,738	5,515,325	8,478,382	20,543,331	62,129,292	2,668,990	12,094	180,532,482
2004	9,989,119	7,884,001	26,369,630	36,281,466	5,191,939	8,812,538	21,133,145	62,612,353	2,219,100	14,779	180,508,070
2005	11,323,844	8,300,628	26,640,945	37,263,686	4,587,114	8,972,027	21,937,521	62,718,683	2,692,228	7,781	184,444,457
2006	10,761,759	7,561,295	23,449,199	35,233,070	3,371,822	7,568,884	20,224,255	53,638,129	2,625,422	6,337	164,440,172
2007	10,052,782	8,744,154	25,366,733	35,700,194	3,533,197	7,314,954	21,515,622	55,717,151	3,161,200	6,112	171,112,099
2008	8,988,858	7,615,966	21,438,041	32,383,517	3,691,278	7,095,147	20,601,805	48,348,177	3,292,517	2,559	153,457,865
2009	7,322,364	3,708,331	18,661,076	25,572,943	3,643,493	5,769,881	16,359,443	37,861,408	3,416,783	1,965	122,317,687
2010	8,527,102	4,299,269	19,804,384	27,958,958	3,943,457	5,899,447	19,681,308	42,113,171	3,504,392	3,756	135,735,244
2011	7,018,498	4,150,396	15,634,872	24,699,638	3,337,460	5,525,369	17,117,779	37,137,382	3,946,582	6,537	118,574,513
2012	6,819,155	4,839,522	13,218,481	20,596,979	2,940,072	4,642,898	*	35,417,901	3,735,785	2,319	92,213,112
2013	7,224,361	4,285,050	13,677,273	18,683,424	2,612,423	3,653,195	*	33,607,796	2,771,105	2,761	86,517,388
2014	7,271,363	3,881,298	11,793,969	21,709,133	2,254,554	4,081,341	*	34,432,956	2,767,290	2,708	88,194,602
2015	8,154,295	3,350,072	12,280,219	18,736,064	1,778,346	4,326,890	*	32,991,130	3,075,646	1,216	84,693,878

** New Jersey's emissions are not included in Table 2 beyond 2011 since New Jersey ended its participation in RGGI at the end of 2011.*

Reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from conservation programs funded by the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund.

The carbon dioxide savings from conservation programs funded by RGGI monies to date is estimated at 1,463,872 short tons, from both direct fossil fuel reductions and reduced electricity use. In June 2013, the Maine Legislature passed LD 1559, *An Act to Reduce Energy Costs, Increase Energy Efficiency, Promote Electric System Reliability and Protect the Environment*, also referred to as the Omnibus Energy Bill (Public Law 2013, Chapter 369). A critical piece of the Omnibus Energy Bill was a new directive to invest 35% of RGGI auction revenues in measures to reduce home heating demand. This change in the RGGI statute allowed the Trust to fund, on a large scale, projects that save heating oil, Maine's most common heating fuel, without relying on federal funds.

Maine statute directs that, through June 30, 2016, the Trust is to allocate 35% of RGGI funds to residential heating reduction programs, 50% to commercial and industrial programs and 15% to rate relief. The Commission directed that the 15% rate relief funds be paid to the transmission and distribution utilities for disbursement to ratepayers in order to maximize its benefit to the Maine economy. The Trust allocated the RGGI funds as directed after setting aside amounts for administration, Strategic Initiatives (such as Public Information, Evaluation, Measurement and Verification), and statutorily mandated interagency transfers. During its 2016 session, the Maine Legislature enacted further amendments to the statute that directed the transfer of \$3 million per year for FY 2017, FY 2018, and FY 2019 to be disbursed to energy-intensive manufacturers and other affected customers. Affected customers receiving a disbursement are also eligible to receive additional funds from the Trust if the disbursement is used toward an efficiency measure. In Docket Number 2016-00143, the Commission determined the disbursement of the 2017 funds in accordance with statute. These changes will impact the allocation of RGGI revenues beginning with FY 2017 and will be reported next year.

The objectives currently set forth in Maine statute for the Trust's use of RGGI funds are to support the goals and implementation of the carbon dioxide cap-and-trade program established under Title 38, section 580-B, and in particular to promote cost-effective energy efficiency measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower heating costs, and save electricity.

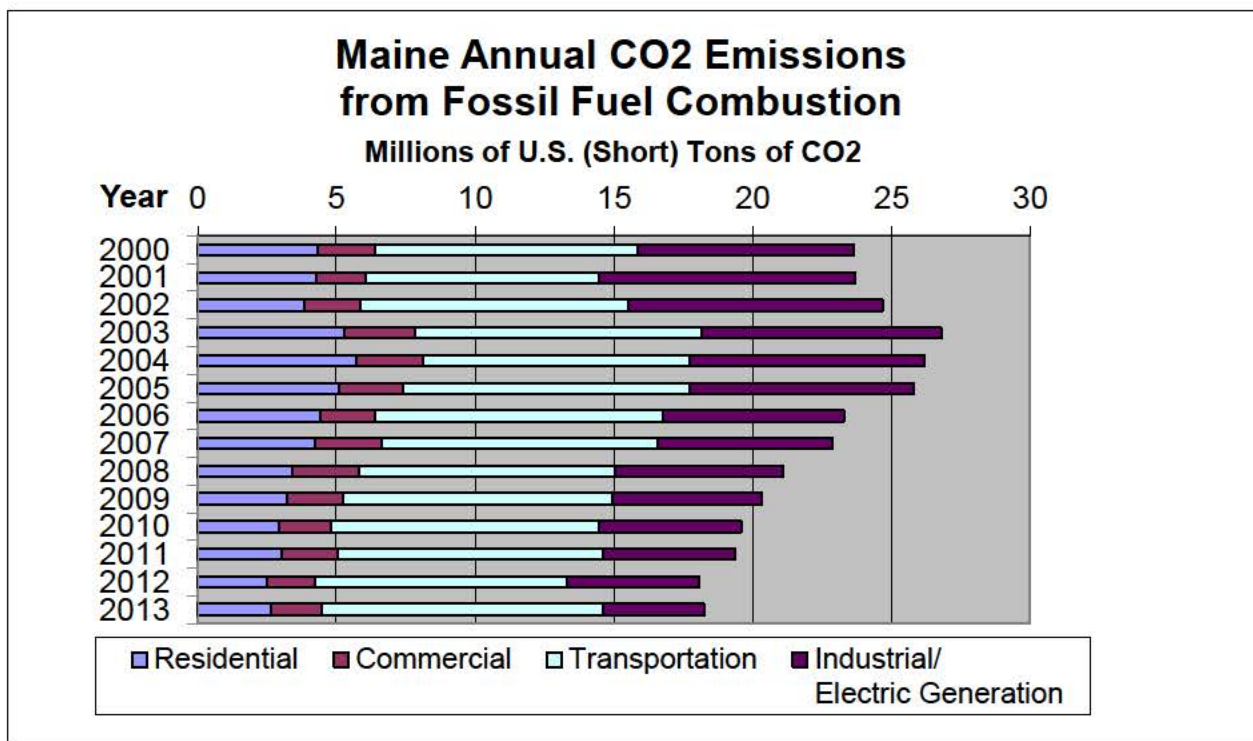
Reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from offset projects.

The offset project certification and application process was implemented in June of 2009. Independent third-party verifier status has been approved for private entities in several of the RGGI participating states. Maine has received and approved applications from two entities for providing independent third-party verification services; however to date Maine has received no applications for RGGI offset projects located within the state. There have been no projects that have completed the application process in any other RGGI participating state. It is possible the demand for offset projects and their associated allowances may increase if allowance prices increase to a point where offset projects become more economically competitive.

B. The improvements in overall carbon dioxide emissions and energy efficiency from sources that emit greenhouse gases including electrical generation and fossil fuel-fired units.

The yearly totals displayed in Table 3 below show the improvements in CO₂ emissions from source sectors within Maine that emit greenhouse gases.

Table 3



Maine Annual CO₂ Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion (In Millions of U.S. Tons)					
Year	Residential	Commercial	Transportation	Industrial/Electric Generation	Total
2000	4.30	2.08	9.46	7.81	23.65
2001	4.28	1.75	8.45	9.22	23.70
2002	3.85	2.00	9.65	9.18	24.68
2003	5.27	2.55	10.33	8.64	26.79
2004	5.73	2.39	9.60	8.48	26.20
2005	5.10	2.30	10.34	8.07	25.81
2006	4.44	1.98	10.37	6.50	23.29
2007	4.26	2.39	9.99	6.31	22.95
2008	3.45	2.40	9.04	6.02	20.91
2009	3.24	2.00	9.46	5.36	20.06
2010	2.94	1.89	9.39	5.49	19.71
2011	3.02	2.05	8.71	4.76	18.54
2012	2.49	1.75	8.83	3.96	17.03
2013	2.66	1.79	10.15	3.65	18.25

Note: Emissions data for calendar years 2014, 2015, and 2016 are not yet available.

C. The maximization of savings through systemic energy improvements statewide.

The Trust’s programs are described in more detail in section E. A review of the Trust’s fiscal year 2016 (FY 2016) annual report illustrates a strong cost-effective statewide presence made possible through effective marketing and vendor partnerships. This has allowed the Trust to develop a robust, low-cost infrastructure for delivering energy efficiency programs to Maine’s energy consumers.

By using RGGI funds to provide technical assistance and financial incentives, the Trust’s programs have succeeded in helping Maine’s residential, institutional, commercial, and larger industrial energy customers to make investments in their energy infrastructure. Leveraging RGGI funds, these customers have installed upgrades such as insulation, pellet boilers, new refrigeration systems, high-efficiency lights, and improved industrial processes that otherwise would not have occurred. Directing RGGI funds to be invested through the Trust’s programs is helping Maine’s energy consumers make a transition to a higher level of energy efficiency; lowering their reliance on fossil fuels while reducing their greenhouse gas emissions and their operating costs.

D. Research and support of new carbon dioxide offset allowance categories for development in the State.

CO₂ allowance prices associated with the RGGI program auctions have never exceeded \$7.50 per allowance, with historic levels remaining more in the \$2 to \$5 per allowance range. Due to the relatively low historical cost of allowances, there has not been a demand for offset allowances (or the projects that create them).

Section D-8 of Public Law 2013, Chapter 369, the Omnibus Energy Bill, passed into law by the 126th Legislature, directs the Department and the Commission to work together to develop and promote for recognition by the other states participating in RGGI, a modification of the existing end-use energy efficiency offset category to provide incentives for industrial and residential consumers to switch from the use of oil and coal to fuels with lower greenhouse gas emissions. The law also directs the Department and the Commission to report progress on the development of this offset category as part of this annual report. To date, the Department and Commission have conferred and exchanged ideas on how best to move forward with this directive. However, considering the current lack of demand for offset allowances, the fact that many residential, commercial, and industrial customers are switching to natural gas for economic reasons alone, and issues associated with the “maximum market penetration rate” concept, the Department and Commission have determined that expending time and effort on developing this offset project category is not a cost-effective use of resources at this time. The “maximum market penetration rate” concept means that if offset projects within a specific category have already penetrated the market at a rate of 5% or more, offset projects in that category no longer qualify for offset allowances under the program. The Department and Commission will continue to monitor the level of demand for offset allowances, and if things change, will re-evaluate the situation.

E. Management and cost-effectiveness of the State's energy conservation and carbon reduction programs and efforts funded by the RGGI Trust Fund through Efficiency Maine established pursuant to Title 35-A, section 10109.

Table 4 shows how the Trust expended RGGI funds, by program, in fiscal year 2016 (FY 2016).

Table 4: FY 2016 RGGI Funding

Uses of RGGI Funds	FY 2016 Funds
Home Energy Savings Program	\$ 4,214,963
Commercial & Industrial Prescriptive Program	\$ 2,641,039
Commercial & Industrial Custom Program	\$ 2,408,753
Maine Advanced Buildings Program	\$ 134,136
Low-Income Direct Install Initiative	\$ 587,983
Strategic Initiatives	\$ 15,897
Administration	\$ 758,062
Inter-Agency Transfers	\$ 2,194,616
RGGI Inc. Payment	\$ 54,131
Total	\$ 13,009,579

Note: RGGI Auction proceeds actually received in FY 2016 totaled \$14.76 million. The Uses of RGGI Funds shown in Table 4 for the Commercial & Industrial Custom Program reflects only spending on those energy upgrade installations that were completed in FY 2016. Some RGGI funds were allocated in FY 2016 to projects that will be completed in future years. The spending and savings associated with those projects will be reflected in future RGGI annual reports.

Table 5 shows savings of electricity (kWh), heating and process fuels (MMBtu), and greenhouse gases (GHG) attributable to the RGGI funds.

Table 5: Results Attributable to RGGI Funds

Uses of RGGI Funds	FY 2016 Funds	Annual kWh Savings	Annual MMBtu Savings	Annual GHG Savings (Tons CO ₂)
Home Energy Savings Program	\$ 4,214,963	384,747	79,878	6,629
Commercial & Industrial Prescriptive Program	\$ 2,641,039	2,959,857	24,013	3,452
Commercial & Industrial Custom Program	\$ 2,408,753	8,262,471	90,749	11,546
Maine Advanced Buildings Program	\$ 134,136	-	623	50
Low-Income Direct Install Initiative	\$ 587,983	-	5,089	410
Strategic Initiatives	\$ 15,897			
Administration	\$ 758,062			
Inter-Agency Transfers	\$ 2,194,616			
RGGI Inc. Payment	\$ 54,131			
Total	\$ 13,009,579	11,607,075	200,350	22,086

Home Energy Savings Program

The Home Energy Savings Program (HESP) serves as a framework for market-based weatherization and heating demand reduction achieved through a combination of rebates, financing, and customer education. HESP is designed to raise awareness about the benefits of home weatherization and to encourage homeowners to undertake cost-effective efficiency upgrades to reduce their heating demand. The Program targets residential customers, including those in single-family homes, multifamily homes with up to four units, new home construction, and low-income households. Program activity in FY 2016 included three categories of measures: supplemental heating systems, central heating systems, and building envelope improvements.

In FY 2016, HESP completed 3,404 home energy upgrades using a combination of RGGI funds and conservation funds from electric and gas utilities. These projects are projected to save Mainers almost 2.0 million MMBtu (equivalent to nearly 14 million gallons of heating oil) over the lifetime of the measures.

RGGI funds were used to pay for \$4,214,963 of HESP program costs in FY 2016, accounting for approximately 59% of the program's total expenditures. These funds facilitated leveraging more than \$16 million in incremental private energy efficiency investments in FY 2016. Overall, RGGI funds invested through HESP generated annual savings of 384,747 kWh in avoided electricity consumption and 79,878 MMBtu in avoided energy consumption associated with heating oil, natural gas and other fuels.

Business Incentive Program

The Trust's Business Incentive Program provides education, technical assistance, quality control, and financial incentives for energy upgrades and retrofits to Maine commercial, industrial, municipal, nonprofit, and institutional customers of all sizes. The program incentivizes proven "off-the-shelf" equipment that is widely available. The menu of fixed incentives is used to overcome the barrier represented by the incremental cost of efficient equipment. The program entices businesses to install higher-efficiency equipment than they would have otherwise.

In FY 2016, the Business Incentive Program invested \$2,641,039 of RGGI funds, comprising approximately 28% of the program's overall expenditures. The efficiency projects made possible by these RGGI funds are calculated to generate savings of 2,959,857 kWh and 24,013 MMBtu annually.

Large Custom Program

The Trust's Large Custom Program provides financial incentives that leverage private investment in large-scale, custom energy savings projects. The program targets the largest energy consumers in Maine, such as hospitals, paper mills, large manufacturers, and organizations with multiple facilities. The incentives provided by the program help large Maine operations overcome barriers to energy efficiency investments and help reduce the initial capital costs of the projects. This allows the projects promoted by the Trust to meet aggressive corporate return-on-investment criteria. The incentives under the Large Custom Program are awarded primarily on the basis of annual energy savings per dollar of incentive funds, while project readiness, economic viability and other factors are also considered.

In FY 2016, the Program offered free scoping audits to certain promising facilities, focusing the marketing of those audits to customers lacking in-house expertise. Of the 14 scoping audits performed, four resulted in custom projects or referrals to the Business Incentive Program for projects involving prescriptive measures. While the conversion rate of scoping audits to project implementation was low in FY 2016, it generated a robust pipeline of potential projects for FY 2017.

The Trust completed 31 Large Custom Program projects in FY 2016, eight of which were funded using \$2,408,753 in RGGI funds. This investment comprised approximately 29% of the program's overall commitments, and is projected to save 8,262,470 kWh of electricity and 90,749 MMBtu of fossil fuel annually.

Maine Advanced Buildings Program

The Maine Advanced Buildings (MAB) Program for commercial new construction offers comprehensive prescriptive strategies to help Maine property owners, developers, architects and engineers design new buildings and major renovations to existing buildings in ways that will achieve significant energy savings over traditional methods. The program offers education and financial incentives to promote and encourage a whole building integrated design approach.

The Trust rolled out the current version of the program at the end of FY 2014 and undertook significant outreach to promote the program in FY 2015 and FY 2016. The Trust focused marketing efforts on Maine's architectural and engineering communities, reaching out to architectural and engineering professional associations and to leading architectural and engineering firms. These firms, in turn, marketed the program during project proposals and in initial conversations with clients. In FY 2016, two buildings were completed and six projects were initiated. The completed projects represent approximately 36,000 square feet of high-performance construction that will realize more than 12,000 MMBtu in lifetime energy savings. The MAB Program invested \$134,136 of RGGI funds in FY 2016, representing 100% of the program's expenditures.

Low-Income Direct Install Initiative

The Trust's Low-Income Direct Install Initiative worked directly with Maine's Community Action Agencies (CAAs) in FY 2016 to install high-efficiency supplemental heating systems, air sealing, and insulation in Low-Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP)-eligible homes experiencing high heating costs. In FY 2016, the Initiative invested RGGI funds in high-efficiency ductless heat pumps, installing more than 200 units in low-income homes across the state. These installations are projected to reduce energy consumption by more than 122,000 MMBtu and save participating households more than \$2.5 million over the life of the measures.

In FY 2016, \$587,983 in RGGI funds were invested in the Low-Income Direct Install Initiative, comprising approximately 65% of the program's overall expenditures. This RGGI investment resulted in annual savings of 5,089 MMBtu in avoided energy consumption associated with heating oil, natural gas and other fuels.

F. The extent to which funds from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund established pursuant to Title 35-A, section 10109 serve customers from all classes of the State's transmission and distribution utilities.

Funding from the Trust was used to provide programs for residential (including low-income), commercial and industrial customer classes, including transmission and sub-transmission customers, as set forth in previous sections of this report.

G. The revenues and expenditures of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund, established pursuant to Title 35-A, section 10109.

Revenues from the sale of Maine's allowances under RGGI have totaled \$83.6 million as of the end of calendar year 2016 (\$5.6 million in 2008, \$9.6 million in 2009, \$8.3 million in 2010, \$5.2 million in 2011, \$5.5 million in 2012, \$14.1 million in 2013, \$11.4 million in 2014, \$15 million in 2015, and \$8.9 million in 2016). Expenditures of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund are described in section E of this report.

Voluntary Renewable Energy Set-aside

The number of allowances withheld from auction for use in the Voluntary Renewable Energy set-aside program are sufficient to adequately cover the number of claims, therefore the Department recommends maintaining the amount of the set-aside at the current level of 2% of Maine's annual CO₂ allowance budget.

Recommendations

The statutory reporting requirement also provides for the Department, the Commission, and Efficiency Maine to propose improvements to the program for the committee to consider.

Although the Department, the Commission, and Efficiency Maine do not recommend any changes to the program at this time, a regional program review is currently underway and will continue into 2017. The conclusions of this program review may result in recommendations for changes to the program. The committees will be made aware of any recommendations that arise from this process.

The Department, the Commission, and Efficiency Maine are available to present this report, and answer any questions you may have.

Respectively submitted,



Paul Mercer, Commissioner
Maine Department of Environmental Protection



Carlisle J.T. McLean, Esq., Commissioner
Maine Public Utilities Commission



Michael Stoddard, Executive Director
Efficiency Maine Trust