

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Mark A. Vannoy
CHAIRMAN

R. Bruce Williamson
COMMISSIONER

Harry Lanphear
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

August 11, 2017

Honorable David C. Woodsome, Senate Chair
Honorable Seth A. Berry, House Chair
Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee
100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: RGGI Reports

Dear Senator Woodsome and Representative Berry:

By letter dated June 20, 2007, the Chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology requested that the Maine Public Utilities Commission provide Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) related information to the Committee at least annually. Specifically, the letter requested a report from the Commission on any ongoing efforts to work with regional partners to develop a model for tracking electricity and natural gas prices and usage in the region in a way that provides indicators of the price impacts from RGGI. The Commission has provided an annual report on this topic to the Committee.

During its 2013 session, the Legislature enacted An Act to Reduce Energy Costs, Increase Energy Efficiency, Promote Electric System Reliability and Protect the Environment (Omnibus Energy Act), P.L. 2013, ch. 369. Section D-7 of the Omnibus Energy Act added the Commission to an annual RGGI related report provided by the Department of Environmental Protection and the trustees of the Efficiency Maine Trust. The report is submitted to the Environment and Natural Resources Committee and the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee. This report contains much of the same information that the Commission has been submitting in its separate RGGI Price Impacts Report pursuant to the 2007 letter from the Committee Chairs.

In addition, during its 2012 session, the Legislature enacted An Act to Provide Transparency in Electricity Pricing for Maine Ratepayers, P.L. 2011, ch. 590, which requires the Commission to develop useful information for ratepayers regarding the costs and effects of state policies on electricity ratepayers. The Commission provides this information, which includes the price impact of RGGI to Maine ratepayers, on its website. Finally, the Commission

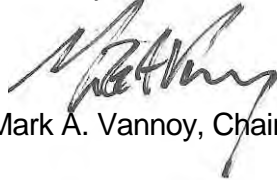
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notes that it provides information regarding the RGGI Program and on-going program review activities as part of its Annual Report.

Given these statutory requirements for reporting RGGI price impact information that became law after the 2007 letter from the Committee requesting this information, the Commission will no longer be providing this separate duplicative report.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Vannoy, Chairman

On behalf of the Chairman and
R. Bruce Williamson, Commissioner
Maine Public Utilities Commission

Attachment

cc: Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee Members
Deirdre Schneider, Legislative Analyst