



Kathy Greely, Performance Systems Development, RGGI Testimony 12/14/2020

Introduction

- Good evening. My name is Kathy Greely and I'm located in Philadelphia.
- I am speaking today on behalf of Performance Systems Development. I'm here to speak in support of RGGI's role in driving energy efficiency projects in PA, and its positive impacts on PA businesses. I am also speaking on behalf of St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church. St. Martin's is a parish of over 900 people in Philadelphia where I lead the Climate Action Team, which spearheads activities ranging from improving the church's physical plant to educating parishioners on impacts of, and ways to respond to, climate change.
- A little background on my company: PSD is an industry leader in the delivery of energy efficiency programs. I was our first employee in PA, back in 2007; we now have 20 staff here in the Keystone state, with offices in Phila, Harrisburg, and Meadville, supporting new construction, rebate and energy audit programs for PECO, PPL, FE, UGI, and PGW, as well as low-income weatherization training & quality assurance for FE, PECO and PGW. In total, PSD has 65 employees across the Northeast and Midwest, including program administrators, engineers, trainers, building scientists, and software developers. In addition to running utility programs, we support the energy efficiency industry with custom software platforms and workforce development training, including energy codes training supported by PA SEP funds; we work with 250 builders, 75 contractors, and > 1000 code officials across PA. We are also a registered small business with the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- I'm here to voice strong support for RGGI on behalf of both Pennsylvania's business and religious communities, and to encourage the DEP to swiftly implement a RGGI ruling that prioritizes energy efficiency investments.

RGGI investments in Energy Efficiency will encourage innovation and economic growth.

- Cap and invest programs like RGGI allow the market to determine the best means of reducing carbon emissions.
- Participating RGGI states have invested over half their proceeds into energy efficiency, generating over \$4 billion in economic benefits, including new jobs and utility bill savings.

It is also important to note that investing RGGI proceeds into energy efficiency can make the energy landscape more equitable.

- Support for low and moderate income customers, and small businesses, is especially critical right now.
- RGGI money can be used to fill in gaps in existing low-income and small business energy efficiency programs, by expanding incentives for increasing efficiency to homes and businesses that use fuel oil, propane, wood, and natural gas.

Investing RGGI proceeds in energy efficiency will create jobs.

- Energy Efficiency is the biggest, most reliable job creator among all the energy sectors.
- Once Pennsylvania officially joins RGGI, energy efficiency workers will be in increasing demand to build, install, monitor, repair, and improve equipment.
- These jobs offer a higher-than-average salary and cannot be outsourced.
- PA can also develop training centers and career pathways with vocational and community schools across the state using RGGI proceeds.

Finally, RGGI can play an important role in strengthening PA's stand on environmental justice for the poor.

- As a person of faith, I believe we have a responsibility to support the most vulnerable among us.
- The impacts of climate change—heat waves, violent storms, spreading disease--fall most heavily on those with the fewest resources.
- My grad school professor once said “Our response to climate change will be a mix of mitigation, adaptation, and suffering. It is up to us to determine what that mix will be.” Today, we have an opportunity to minimize the suffering of Pennsylvanians, by using RGGI funds to mitigate carbon emissions and adapt our workforce for a sustainable future.

I encourage the DEP to act quickly to develop a RGGI rule that prioritizes investment in energy efficiency, which will lower customer bills, reduce emissions, create jobs, and power Pennsylvania's economic recovery. Thank you for your time, and this opportunity to share the perspectives of my company, and my faith community.