



TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON

John L. Spiegelman, President
 Thomas Heckel, Vice President
 Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager
 Jay W. Blumenthal, Independent Regulatory Review Commission



January 14, 2021

Honorable Patrick McDonnell, Chairperson
 Environmental Quality Board
 P.O. Box 8477
 Harrisburg, PA 17105- 8477

Re: Abington Township's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Letter of Support

Dear Chairperson McDonnell,

The Township of Abington supports the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) being considered by the Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board. The Township of Abington is located in southeast Pennsylvania in Montgomery County. It is the second-largest municipality in the County serving more than 55,000 residents. In June 2019, the Township passed a "Ready for 100" Renewable Energy Resolution that calls for the Township to strive towards 100% clean, renewable electricity by 2035.

The RGGI aligns with the Township's efforts to reduce its reliance on non-renewable energy sources and its carbon footprint. It will deliver substantial benefits to Pennsylvania, including climate and economic benefits such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, job creation, reducing health-related expenses from pollution, and improved quality of life. It is proposed that the reduction in carbon emissions alone will exceed 180 million tons by 2030. Furthermore, modeling conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection indicates a nearly 2 billion dollar increase in the Gross State Product and the creation of over 27,000 jobs.

The impact the RGGI will have on Pennsylvania's economy, environment, and resident health, including Abington residents, is substantial. As such, we respectfully request the Environmental Quality Board look favorably in its consideration of approving the RGGI.

Thank you for your consideration of this important initiative.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Richard J. Manfredi

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 Richard J. Manfredi
 Township Manager

DocuSigned by:

John L. Spiegelman

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 John L. Spiegelman
 President, Board of Commissioners