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January 14, 2021

The Honorable Patrick McDonnell
Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RE: Uplight's Support for Proposed Rulemaking on CO₂ Budget Trading Program (50 Pa.B. 6212)

Dear Secretary McDonnell:

I am writing on behalf of Uplight to recommend that the Department support the proposed rulemaking to bring Pennsylvania into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). Uplight is the leading provider of end-to-end customer-centric technology solutions dedicated solely to serving the energy ecosystem. With over 300 employees, Uplight provides solutions to more than 80 utilities around the globe seeking to power their customer energy experience.

As a part of our company's commitment to our customers and the environment, Uplight has the ambitious goal of reducing CO₂ emissions by more than 100 million metric tons and saving consumers more than \$10 billion on their energy bills. This is the equivalent to removing more than 21 million cars from the road for a year. In order to meet this commitment, we strongly support policy initiatives that transition our economy towards sustainable solutions.

We believe RGGI provides the opportunity to accelerate Pennsylvania's adoption of sustainable solutions. By joining RGGI, Pennsylvania stands to benefit from the proceeds from RGGI's market-based cap and trade program. Current RGGI states have [raised nearly \\$3.8 billion](#) for investment in clean energy and other state priorities. This has helped these states create jobs and build out their sustainability and renewable energy sectors.

In addition to the benefits for the state and its workforce, RGGI has a track record of providing savings for ratepayers - residential and commercial. Current RGGI states invest the majority of their proceeds into energy efficiency, which in the past has helped lower electricity prices. With additional program proceeds, there is an opportunity to continue expanding these investments and realize increased savings for customers. These savings can be reinvested back into operations, which promotes further job creation and economic development. [Modeling](#) by the DEP found that if Pennsylvania directs even just 1/3 of its RGGI proceeds into energy efficiency investments, Pennsylvania power prices would decrease compared with business as usual. Modeling also shows that electricity exports would actually increase

by 2030. This is because energy efficiency investments help reduce in-state energy demand, which creates an opportunity for the state to export energy that it does not need.

Uplight supports Pennsylvania joining RGGI. We urge the Department to finalize the proposed rulemaking and provide Pennsylvania businesses and ratepayers the opportunity to benefit from RGGI.

Sincerely,

The logo for Uplight, featuring the word "uplight" in a bold, sans-serif font. The "u" and "p" are blue, the "l" is green, and the "i", "g", "h", and "t" are blue. A small trademark symbol (TM) is located at the top right of the "t".

Meredith McGowan

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