

Climate Change Planning in the Mid-Atlantic

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Overview of Action

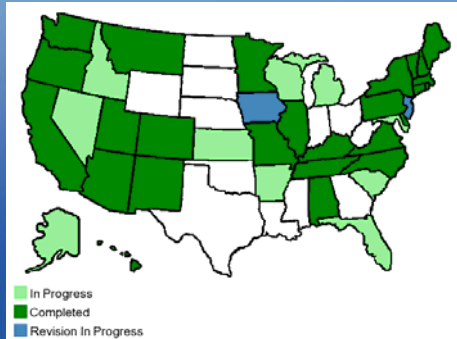
For this purpose, Mid-Atlantic states include:
 Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina

All Mid-Atlantic States:



- Climate Action Plan complete or in progress
- Joined The Climate Registry
- Biofuel incentives or mandates
- Commercial and Residential Energy Codes
- Offer Green Pricing option

Climate Action Plans



■ In Progress
■ Completed
■ Revision In Progress

Pennsylvania

- PA Environmental Council (PEC) 2007 "Climate Change Roadmap" - NGO effort
- RGGI observer status
- Governor working toward an Energy Independence Strategy to be adopted in 2008
- Existing legislation: GHG reductions and reporting; public benefit fund, RPS, Green Power for State, Green Building standards, Energy Efficiency and Resource Standards

Pennsylvania Climate Change Roadmap Recommendations



- 25 x 25 Vision*
- **Reduce emissions 25% below 2000 levels by 2025**
- Strengthen Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard: 25% alternative sources & carbon neutral non-renewables by 2025
- Hold electricity demand in 2025 equal to current levels by applying aggressive EE policies
- Increase renewable transportation fuels to supply 25% of state needs
- Implementation of a national cap-and-trade system to achieve power plant emissions reductions
- Commercial geologic sequestration by 2025



Maryland Recommendations for Legislation



- **Mitigation**
 - Adopt legislation to reduce GHG emissions by 25% by 2020, 90% by 2050
 - Adopt or amend legislation to increase EE
 - Amend MD RPS law to encourage more investments into renewable energy sources
- **Adaptation**
 - Regular updates of shoreline conditions
 - Develop unified shoreline mgt approach
 - Amend Flood Hazard Mgt Act (1976)
- *Existing Legislation:* Healthy Air Act (2006); Clean Cars Act (2007); EmPOWERMaryland (2007)



Maryland



- **Climate Commission established under Executive Order (01/07) to:**
 - (1) Develop a Plan of Action to address the drivers and causes of climate change;
 - (2) Prepare for the likely consequences and impacts of climate change to Maryland; and
 - (3) Establish firm benchmarks and timetables for implementing the Plan of Action.
- **Climate Action Plan draft in review; final expected July**
- **3 Working Groups: Adaptation and Response; GHG and Carbon Mitigation; Scientific and Technical**
- **RGGI member**



Maryland Recommendations for Executive Action



- **Joint Mitigation and Adaptation**
 - **State & Local Government Lead by Example**
- **Mitigation**
 - **Public education and outreach**
 - **Encourage Federal & international action**
 - **Understand GHG implications from major projects**
 - **Incentives for Green Buildings beyond minimum code requirements**
- **Adaptation**
 - **Forest Carbon Sequestration Pilot**



North Carolina



- Complementary efforts by:
 - NC Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change established in 2005; Climate Action Plan Advisory Group (CAPAG) established in 2006. Formation of a group had been recommended in Clean Smokestacks Act (2002).
- Draft under review, 56 recommendations included. Final expected summer 2008.



South Carolina



- EO February 2007 established the Climate, Energy and Commerce Advisory Committee (CECAC).
- 30 Gov. appointed members
- 5 Working Groups: Agriculture, Forestry and Waste; Energy Supply; Residential, Commercial and Industrial; Transportation and Land Use; and Cross-Cutting Issues
- Draft plan due July



North Carolina Actions & Draft Recommendations



- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (S.L. 2007-397)
- Economic study of impacts of actions/controls underway
- Example CAPAG recommendations:
 - Establish a Blue Ribbon Commission on Adaptation to Climate Change
 - Land development planning
 - Multi-modal transportation and promotion
 - Preservation of forest lands
 - Biodiesel production and incentives
 - Tailpipe GHG standards
 - Surcharge on higher emitting vehicles to raise funds for transportation-related projects that reduce GHGs



South Carolina Draft Recommended Actions



- Examining cap and trade and carbon tax
- Increased production of biofuels
- Improved vehicle emissions standards
- Transportation System Management - vehicle flow
- Establish Commission for a Sustainable SC
- Encourage local government climate action plans
- State climate public education and outreach
- Clearinghouse of GHG reduction business opportunities to link R&D and investors
- Adaptation planning



Mayors and Localities



- US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
 - 852 mayors
 - Kyoto protocol-like policies
 - Mayors from VA (9), MD (11), PA (14), NC (38), and SC (5)



More Information on State Action



Commission website: www.deq.virginia.gov/info/climatechange.html

Pennsylvania: www.pecpa.org/roadmap.htm

Maryland: www.mdclimatechange.us

North Carolina: www.ncclimatechange.us

South Carolina: sclimatechange.us

Pew Center on Global Climate Change:
www.pewclimate.org

EPA Climate Change: www.epa.gov/climatechange

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