Dear NYSERDA and RGGI team,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with some suggestions on the proposed DRAFT of the Investment Plan of Trading Budget for CO2 allowance Auction Program from NY.
We would like to share with you four insights on how Calera can help NYSERDA reach its objectives.

1- First an introduction to Calera and what we do:

Calera’s carbon capture and conversion technology with beneficial re-use of CO2 provides a sound and cost-effective alternative to Geologic Sequestration and Terrestrial Sequestration. By chemically bonding carbon dioxide into carbonate minerals, Calera’s process permanently converts CO2 into a mineral form, useable as cement or aggregate.

Calera was founded by Brent Constantz, PhD, who holds over 60 patents in the field of specialty cements and has built three successful firms in the last two decades. Backed by Khosla Ventures, Calera now has a team of over 70 scientists, engineers and experienced executives. The company is currently building a pilot facility on a 200-acre site next to a Dynergy 1,000 MW power plant, and is in the process of designing and developing demo plants targeted at several locations in the United States and internationally.

Respecting your Criteria 1 of cost effectiveness and your desire to support long-term projects, it seems like a revenue model analysis should be the driver of the partner selection planned for 2009-2010. If so, CCS technologies capable of generating revenues (e.g. sell of cement, aggregate or others) are your top priority.

3- Broadening the definition of Carbon Capture and Sequestration to include innovative solutions with “beneficial reuse of CO2” can help support technologies that generate revenues from CO2 mitigation. The below language is a proposal of an all-encompassing definition of carbon capture with beneficial reuse of CO2 used in current legislations:

“The innovative concepts for beneficial CO2 use/reuse include, but are not limited to, CO2 mineralization to carbonates directly through conversion of CO2 in flue gas or indirectly through capture of CO2 from air, use of CO2/algae for biomass production, conversion of CO2 to fuels and chemicals, and desalination of water produced from CO2 storage in saline formations.”

4 - We propose opening the participation to the Electric Power Supply and Delivery Task Force (EPSD Task Force). Calera is dedicated to not only reduce but mitigate greenhouse gas emissions from the electric power sector, and to that effect, would be a valuable driver of the task force.

Also, please make sure to include us in your mailing list for all future hearings and events related to the Trading Program.

We look forward to hearing back from you. Thank you for taking on such challenging and innovation-driving initiative.

Best Regards,
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