

January 7, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

RE: New York's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Operating Plan Amendment for 2026

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Melissa Parrott, Executive Director of Renewable Energy Long Island, and I write to express our strong support for New York's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Operating Plan Amendment for 2026.

We commend the great work from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) in implementing RGGI. This implementation has significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions and directly benefits New Yorkers with cleaner air, lower energy bills, greater electric system reliability, and job creation. Under regulation, NYSERDA is responsible for funding programs for "energy efficiency, renewable or non-carbon emitting technologies, and innovative carbon emissions abatement technologies with significant carbon reduction potential." The proposed Operating Plan Amendment for 2026 directly fulfills NYSERDA's regulatory responsibility, and we strongly support its adoption.

Specifically, we strongly support the proposal under the Large-Scale Generation Programs. Here, RGGI funding would be used to invest in large-scale electricity generation in New York State, particularly initiating a new Offshore Wind Predevelopment Support Program (Program).

Further, the immense work New York has already committed to the offshore wind industry must be protected. We acknowledge the significant work New York has already done to build up the offshore wind industry from its infancy. From the Propel NY project and the Brooklyn Clean Energy Hub to the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal (SBMT), private-public investment has brought billions of dollars into the State and has positively impacted our communities. Economic development from the offshore wind industry already delivers significant benefits to our state, and the investments made should not be squandered. If these steps are not taken during this period of federal uncertainty, it will be much more difficult to begin industry development again in the future.

We greatly appreciate the opportunity to engage in public input during the RGGI review process and strongly support the aforementioned Offshore Wind Predevelopment Support Program.