

# U.S. State and Regional Action on Climate Change

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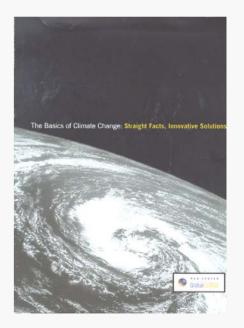
U.S. EPA Climate Leaders 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting March 23, 2007

#### The Pew Center



- Founded in May 1998
- Independent, Non-Profit, Non-Partisan
- Research (science and impacts, policy, economics, solutions)
- Education and Outreach
- Business Environmental Leadership Council





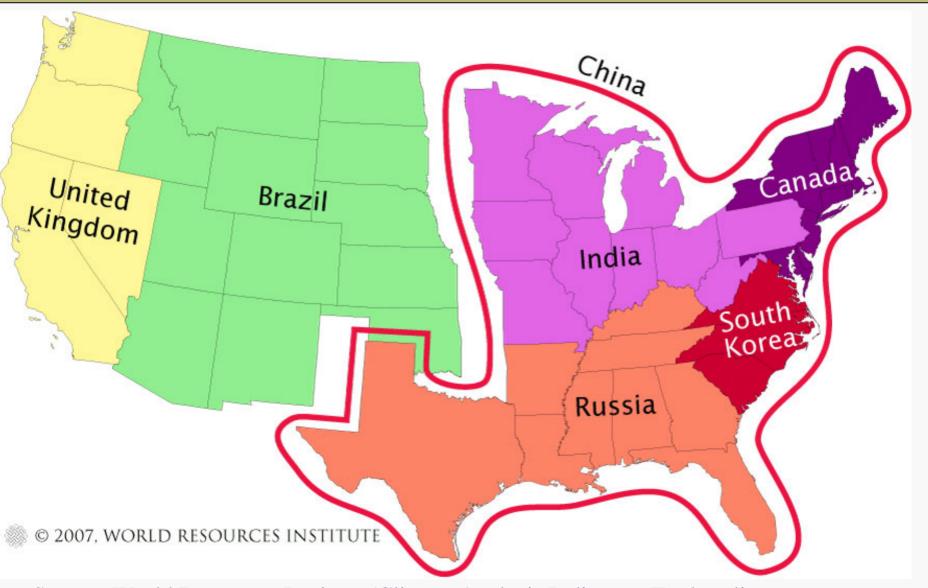
#### Overview



- Context
- Motivation for state action
- The landscape of state policies that address climate change
- Highlights from states taking the lead
- State policy diffusion

## State Emissions Are Significant...





Source: World Resources Institute (Climate Analysis Indicators Tool; online at

http://cait.wri.org/figures.php)

#### Motivations for GHG reductions



- Concern about climate impacts
- Economic development
- Energy price volatility
- Energy independence
- Air quality concerns
- Traffic congestion
- Other

## The Landscape of State Policies

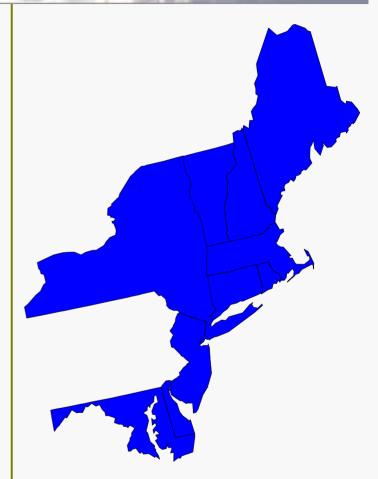


- Direct and Indirect GHG Emission Reductions
- Governors and legislators are acting
- Almost Every State is Doing Something:
  - Regional Initiatives
  - Targets, Climate Action Plans and GHG reporting
  - Electricity (renewable energy mandates, carbon adders, public benefit funds, green pricing, REC tracking)
  - Transportation (CA GHG vehicle standards, smart growth, transportation management, cleaner fuels and vehicles)
  - Ag and Forestry (sequestration, renewable energy, biofuels, ethanol)
  - Other (e.g., energy efficiency, waste management)

## Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

An Initiative of the Northeast & Mid-Atlantic States of the U.S.

- •First mandatory U.S. GHG cap-and-trade program
- •Regional; power plant CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (stabilize emissions at current levels 2009-2015, 10% reduction by 2019)
- MA is back in; RI joining; MD joining later this year
- Implications
  - Potential model for national policy
  - First U.S. mandatory cap-and-trade system for GHG emissions
  - Possible linkage to CA, EU-ETS, CDM
  - Novel standards approach to offsets
  - Real data to inform policy
  - Allowance allocation is the forum for equity issues



#### California Actions



- •AB 32: Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006
  - Set California's targets at 1990 levels by 2020
  - First enforceable state-wide program to cap major industrial GHG emissions and include penalties
  - Authorizes market-based mechanisms (cap-and-trade);
     allows one-year extension on targets
  - Possible linking with RGGI, EU-ETS
- •Low Carbon Fuels Standard (reduce carbon intensity of vehicle fuels sold in California at least 10% by 2020)
- •SB 1368: greenhouse gas performance standard for new long-term electricity contracts
- Renewable Portfolio Standard (20% by 2010)
- Vehicle GHG standards: 22% reduction by 2012; 30% by 2016

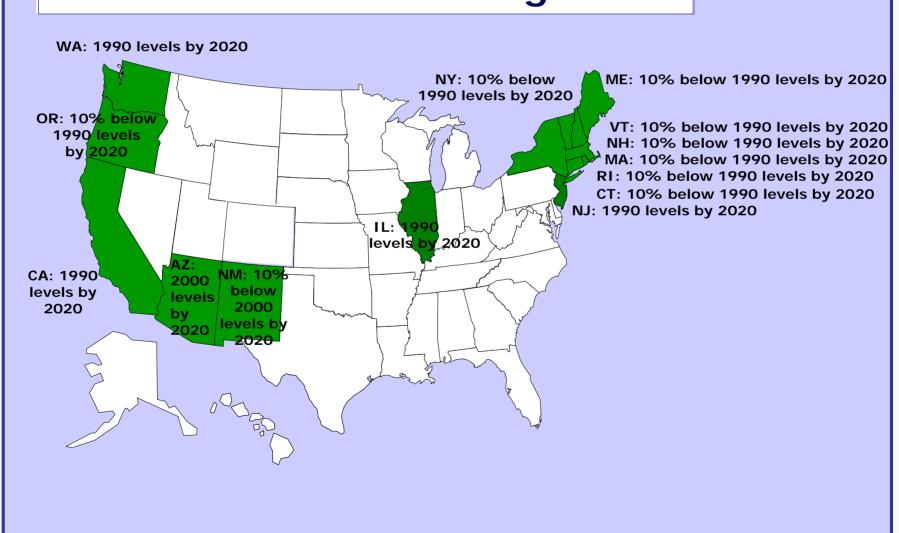
## State Action Across the Country



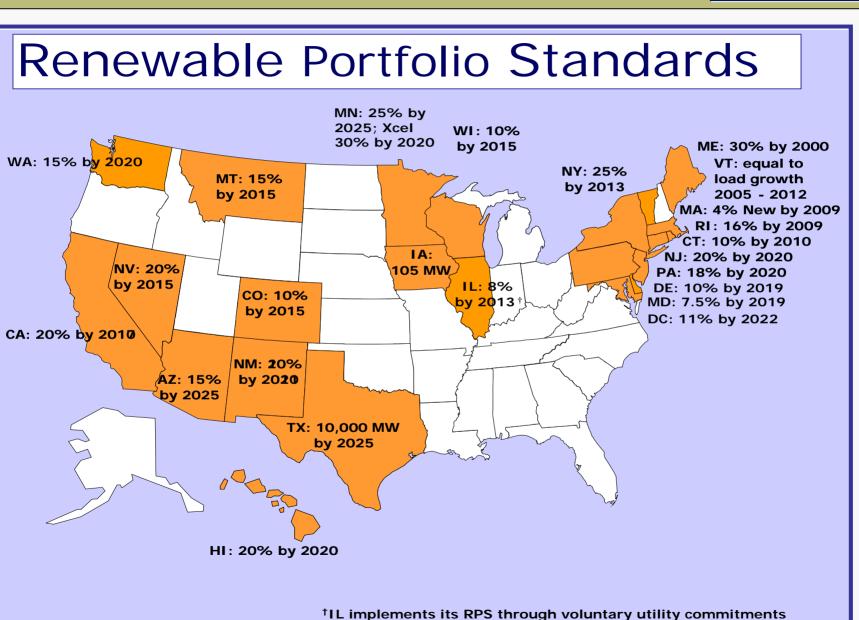
- •South Carolina Governor's Climate, Energy, and Commerce Advisory Committee (Feb. 2007)
- Illinois
  - Governor announced new statewide targets (1990 levels by 2020, 60% below by 2050); Advisory Group to recommend strategies (Feb. 2007)
- Florida
  - Energy Commission (June 2006)
- Alaska
  - Climate Impact Assessment Commission (May 2006)
- Arizona
  - Targets (Sept. 2006): GHG emissions at 2000 levels by 2020, 50% below this by 2040
- New Mexico
  - 2000 levels by 2012, 10% below 2000 by 2020
  - Governor's Dec. 2006 executive order carries out recommendations from Governor's Advisory group (est. June 2005) to achieve emissions targets
- North Carolina
  - Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change (est. Sept. 2005)
- Montana
  - Governor created climate change advisory council (April 2006)





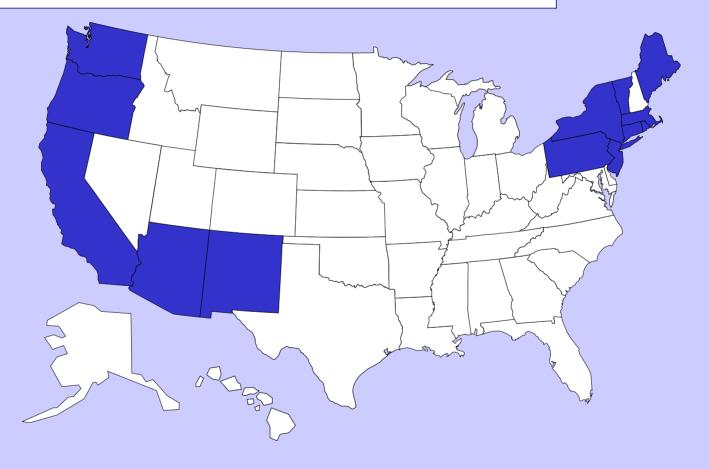






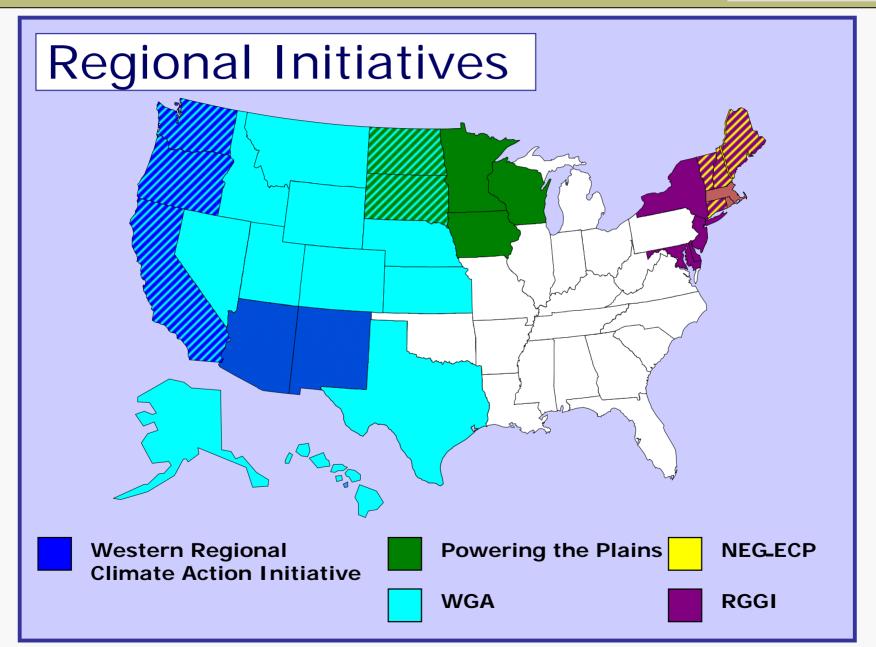






States Poised to Follow California's GHG Emissions Standards for Vehicles



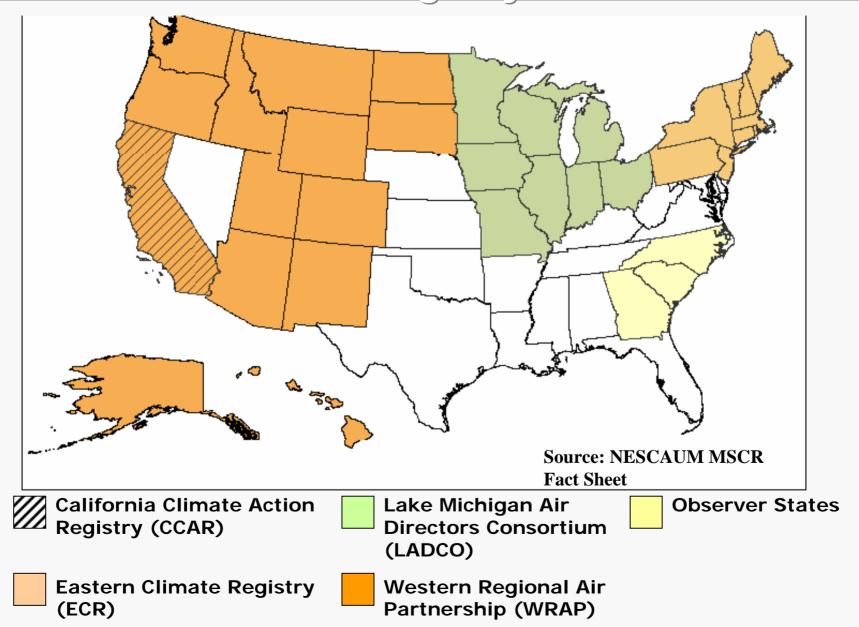




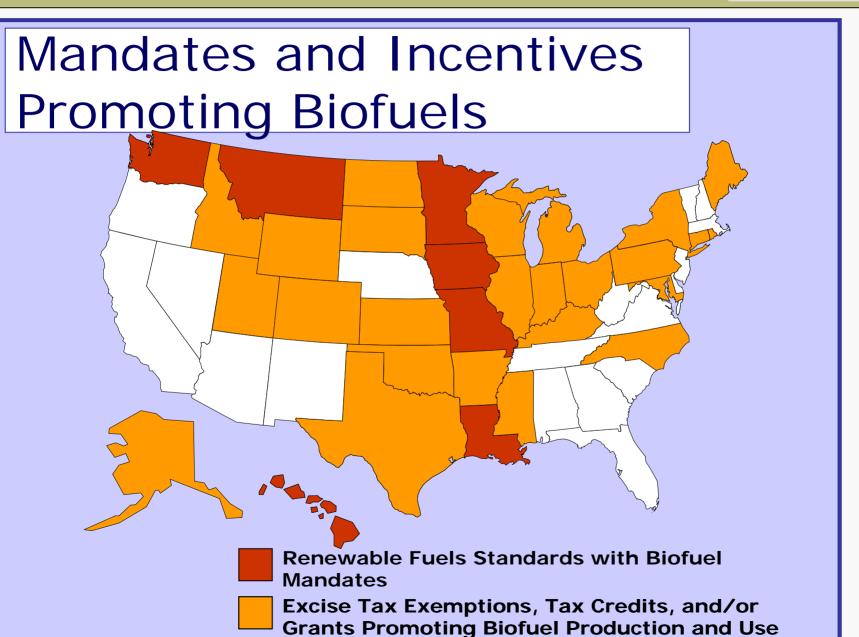


# Multi-State Climate Registry

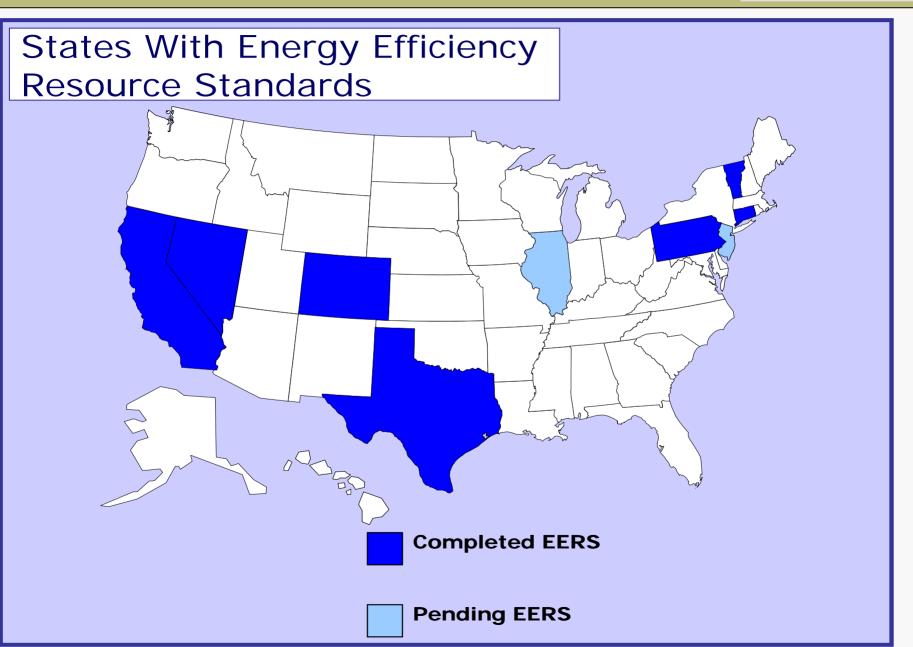












#### Conclusion



- Momentum is picking up at the federal level, but states are still leading on climate
- Achieving real emissions reductions
- States provide lessons for federal action
- Even with federal action, states will play a key role
- Trend toward regional action
- Multiple drivers, multiple benefits

#### Further information



# Pew Center on Global Climate Change

www.pewclimate.org