

**Below is The Chamber's policy regarding a potential NEW carbon tax affecting your business and bottom line.**

The Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce promotes sound sustainable energy policies, environmental protection and infrastructure.

We work to advance long-term economic-sensitive strategies for sustainable energy efficiency initiatives, environmental protection and infrastructure development that will improve the economic climate and quality of life for businesses and people of the Lehigh Valley.

We believe that a legislative analysis of cost and benefits should be conducted before Pennsylvania enters the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) which currently consists of ten states that have implemented a regional cap on CO2 emissions from fossil-fuel electricity generation facilities, combined with an allowance trading and auction mechanism.

The Chamber believes that the following principles must be followed in any decision-making process for RGGI or a RGGI-like program by Pennsylvania.

Principles:

- Pennsylvania should implement a market-based solution when considering how to address greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate man-made climate change. A legislative solution to address greenhouse gas emissions should be utilized without replication of existing laws.
- Prior to participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) or a RGGI-like program, legislators should first comprehensively analyze the benefits and costs of such a program, taking into careful consideration the environmental benefits, costs and benefits to customers and businesses, and utilization of options already available to the state to achieve the same or similar end results.
- Any consideration to join the RGGI should incorporate the following elements:
  - Set CO2e emission targets to stimulate reductions and develop a market in a manner that fosters economic growth rather than unduly burdening businesses
  - CO2e pricing must be set by the market, with necessary price limits imposed to minimize undue burden.

- Funding generated should be exclusively used to advance Pennsylvania enterprises and consumers in developing and implementing clean energy, improving energy efficiency and conservation, and mitigating impact to customers.