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Interviews: 1,209 registered voters in
CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NY, RI, and VT
Dates: July 19-24, 2016

FINAL

Study #11925
Sierra Club RGGI Survey
July 2016

	All RGGI States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
Male	47	46	47	47	47	46
Female	53	54	53	53	53	54

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

STATE	Unweighted Number Of Respondents	Weighted Number Of Respondents	Weighted Percentage Of All Respondents
	#	#	%
Connecticut.....	200	102	8
Delaware	50	32	3
Maine.....	50	50	4
Maryland.....	203	195	16
Massachusetts.....	200	181	15
New Hampshire	202	44	4
New York.....	204	548	45
Rhode Island	50	36	3
Vermont.....	50	21	2

1a. First, does anyone in this household work for a radio station, a television station, a newspaper, an advertising agency, a market research firm, or a company in the energy industry?

No.....	100	CONTINUE
Yes	-	TERMINATE
Not sure	-	

1b. Are you currently registered to vote in [STATE]?

	All RGGI States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
Yes, registered.....	97	98	98	95	97	97
No, not registered	3	1	2	5	2	3
Not sure	-	1	-	-	1	-

1c. For statistical purposes only, and to ensure that we have a representative sample, would you please tell me the year you were born?

	All RGGI States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
18-24	10	9	14	13	3	8
25-29	6	6	5	4	11	7
30-34	7	5	6	6	7	9
35-39	8	7	10	9	5	7
40-44	6	6	6	6	4	6
45-49	9	10	10	8	12	10
50-54	8	7	8	7	10	8
55-59	12	14	11	14	13	12
60-64	9	12	7	10	8	9
65-69	8	6	9	7	12	7
70-74	5	7	6	6	5	4
75 and over.....	11	11	7	9	10	12
Refused	1	-	1	1	-	1

1de. Finally, are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NO" OR "NOT SURE," ASK:)** What is your race—white, black, Asian, or something else?

	All RGGI					
	<u>States</u>	<u>CT</u>	<u>MD</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>NH</u>	<u>NY</u>
White	73	79	63	84	90	67
Black/African American.....	13	7	28	6	1	14
Hispanic.....	8	9	4	5	3	13
Asian	3	1	2	2	-	5
Other	2	3	2	2	3	1
Not sure/refused	1	1	1	1	3	-

2ab. Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way **[GOVERNOR]** is handling (his/her) job as governor? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well which way do you lean—more toward approve or disapprove?

	All RGGI					
	<u>States</u>	<u>CT</u>	<u>MD</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>NH</u>	<u>NY</u>
Approve	47	25	58	61	48	43
Approve (lean)	7	6	5	7	4	8
Disapprove	29	56	15	9	32	34
Disapprove (lean)	3	2	5	4	2	2
Not sure	14	11	17	19	14	13
Total Approve	54	31	63	68	52	51
Total Disapprove	32	58	20	13	34	36

3. How much of a problem do you consider the issue of climate change to be—a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, not that much of a problem, or not a problem at all?

	All RGGI					
	<u>States</u>	<u>CT</u>	<u>MD</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>NH</u>	<u>NY</u>
Very serious problem.....	45	41	47	54	40	42
Somewhat serious problem	31	35	30	27	28	31
Not that much of a problem	14	13	13	12	20	15
Not a problem at all	9	7	8	7	10	11
Not sure	1	4	2	-	2	1

4ab. As you may know, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative is a program that nine states in the Northeast, including **[STATE]**, participate in. The program sets a cap on the amount of carbon pollution that power plants in the participating states can release, and companies that produce energy must buy credits for the carbon pollution they release. The revenue raised from selling these credits goes to things such as energy efficiency programs, development of clean and renewable energy sources, credits to help consumers pay their electric bill, and worker training for clean energy jobs. The program requires power plants in each state to decrease the amount of carbon pollution they release overall by two and a half percent every year through 2020.

Based on this description, would you say you support or oppose **[STATE]**'s participation in this program? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "SUPPORT" OR "OPPOSE," ASK:)** And do you strongly (**support/oppose**) or somewhat (**support/oppose**) **[STATE]**'s participation?

	All RGGI					
	<u>States</u>	<u>CT</u>	<u>MD</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>NH</u>	<u>NY</u>
Support strongly	47	45	44	53	40	48
Support somewhat	30	29	35	31	28	28
Oppose somewhat	6	3	6	4	9	6
Oppose strongly	8	11	7	6	11	9
Not sure.....	9	12	8	6	12	9
Total Support	77	74	79	84	68	76
Total Oppose	14	14	13	10	20	15

5ab. There is a proposal to change the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative's carbon pollution cap by requiring power plants in each state to decrease the amount of carbon pollution they release by FIVE percent every year. Most companies have been decreasing pollution by this amount already, and under this proposal they would be required to continue doing so. Would you support or oppose this proposed change in the program? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "SUPPORT" OR "OPPOSE," ASK:)** And would you strongly **(support/oppose)** or somewhat **(support/oppose)** this?

	All RGGI					
	<u>States</u>	<u>CT</u>	<u>MD</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>NH</u>	<u>NY</u>
Support strongly	52	50	54	53	39	51
Support somewhat	27	28	27	28	29	28
Oppose somewhat	6	6	4	7	5	6
Oppose strongly	8	8	7	7	14	9
Not sure.....	7	8	8	5	13	6
Total Support	79	78	81	81	68	79
Total Oppose	14	14	11	14	19	15

6. If this change is made and states in this program are required to decrease carbon pollution from power plants by five percent every year, what effect do you think it would have on each of the following areas in [STATE]? Would it have a positive effect, a negative effect, or no real effect either way in this area?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE OF ALL RGGI STATES WHO SAY POSITIVE EFFECT

	<u>Positive Effect</u>	<u>Negative Effect</u>	<u>No Real Effect Either Way</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
Air quality				
All RGGI States	80	4	11	5
CT.....	75	2	17	6
MD.....	84	3	11	2
MA.....	79	3	14	4
NH.....	73	6	17	4
NY.....	81	5	8	6
People's health				
All RGGI States	79	5	12	4
CT.....	72	1	19	8
MD.....	81	4	9	6
MA.....	83	3	12	2
NH.....	70	3	21	6
NY.....	80	7	11	2
The quality of our environment, including things such as climate change				
All RGGI States	74	5	14	7
CT.....	68	3	19	10
MD.....	73	5	13	9
MA.....	75	5	17	3
NH.....	63	3	24	10
NY.....	76	6	12	6
Development of renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar				
All RGGI States	73	5	15	7
CT.....	69	4	19	8
MD.....	74	5	12	9
MA.....	78	3	15	4
NH.....	69	7	16	8
NY.....	73	5	14	8

Q.6 cont'd

	<u>Positive Effect</u>	<u>Negative Effect</u>	<u>No Real Effect Either Way</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
Jobs and the economy				
All RGGI States	48	16	24	12
CT.....	39	16	32	13
MD.....	45	17	25	13
MA.....	48	11	30	11
NH.....	39	23	26	12
NY.....	52	17	21	10
The reliability of the electricity system				
All RGGI States	42	11	30	17
CT.....	37	8	38	17
MD.....	44	12	30	14
MA.....	38	8	34	20
NH.....	34	12	34	20
NY.....	45	12	28	15
The cost of electricity				
All RGGI States	37	32	17	14
CT.....	30	35	19	16
MD.....	35	37	18	10
MA.....	33	36	18	13
NH.....	29	42	19	10
NY.....	43	28	15	14

(Q.7 AND Q.8 ARE ROTATED)

7. I'm going to read you a statement that could be made by SUPPORTERS of this idea to change the carbon pollution requirements of this program.

This program has already set participating states on the right path. They are on track to reduce carbon pollution from power plants by fifty percent by 2020, which is a great start, but will still mean tens of millions of tons of this pollution being released into the air every year. We can do better. Locking in reductions in carbon pollution will result in fewer health problems and a cleaner environment in **[STATE]**. At the same time, the program will raise billions of dollars more to develop clean, renewable energy, create thousands of new jobs, and save consumers billions of dollars through greater energy efficiency. This is a market-based solution that has been proven to work, and can work even better going forward.

How convincing do you find this statement to be—very convincing, somewhat convincing, not that convincing, or not convincing at all?

	All RGGI					
	<u>States</u>	<u>CT</u>	<u>MD</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>NH</u>	<u>NY</u>
Very convincing.....	28	26	29	24	21	29
Somewhat convincing	46	44	42	52	44	46
Not that convincing.....	11	12	13	12	14	10
Not convincing at all	12	14	12	10	17	13
Not sure.....	3	4	4	2	4	2

8. I'm going to read you a statement that could be made by OPPONENTS of this idea to change the carbon pollution requirements of this program.

This program is nothing more than an energy tax on consumers. Because power companies have to buy credits, they end up passing the costs along to consumers, meaning higher electricity prices for everyone, something that hits seniors and lower-income consumers especially hard. And the program is subject to how political winds blow—New Jersey previously left the program, saying that it did not help the state reduce pollution, and there's nothing to stop more states from leaving as well. Plus this program creates bureaucracy in [STATE] that is no longer even necessary, because new rules from the federal government may require the state to reduce its carbon pollution anyway.

How convincing do you find this statement to be—very convincing, somewhat convincing, not that convincing, or not convincing at all?

	All RGGI					
	States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
Very convincing	21	26	22	19	22	20
Somewhat convincing	33	31	34	41	32	31
Not that convincing	21	20	21	21	17	22
Not convincing at all	20	18	18	16	23	22
Not sure	5	5	5	3	6	5

- 9ab. Now that you have heard more about it, would you say that you support or oppose the proposal to change the carbon pollution cap by requiring power plants in each state to decrease the amount of carbon pollution they release by five percent every year? (IF RESPONDENT SAYS "SUPPORT" OR "OPPOSE," ASK:) And would you strongly (support/oppose) or somewhat (support/oppose) this?

	All RGGI					
	States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
Support strongly	46	40	43	43	36	50
Support somewhat	26	27	28	32	25	23
Oppose somewhat	7	9	9	10	12	6
Oppose strongly	11	14	9	10	16	11
Not sure	10	10	11	5	11	10
Total Support	72	67	71	75	61	73
Total Oppose	18	23	18	20	28	17

Q.5ab Initial Response						
	All RGGI					
	States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
Support strongly	52	50	54	53	39	51
Support somewhat	27	28	27	28	29	28
Oppose somewhat	6	6	4	7	5	6
Oppose strongly	8	8	7	7	14	9
Not sure	7	8	8	5	13	6
Total Support	79	78	81	81	68	79
Total Oppose	14	14	11	14	19	15

FACTUALS: Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

F1. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, or something else? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "DEMOCRAT" OR "REPUBLICAN," ASK:)** Would you call yourself a strong (Democrat/Republican) or not a very strong (Democrat/Republican)? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "SOMETHING ELSE" OR "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

	All RGGI					
	States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
Strong Democrat	26	26	31	26	15	26
Not a very strong Democrat	14	12	15	12	6	17
Closer to the Democratic Party	10	10	8	16	14	7
Neither/independent/something else	17	19	12	21	23	16
Closer to the Republican Party	8	11	8	8	12	6
Not a very strong Republican	10	8	6	7	4	14
Strong Republican	11	11	17	7	19	10
Not sure	4	3	3	3	7	4
Total Democrat	50	48	54	54	35	50
Total Republican	29	30	31	22	35	30

F2. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be very conservative, somewhat conservative, middle of the road, somewhat liberal, or very liberal?

	All RGGI					
	States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
Very conservative	13	16	14	8	18	14
Somewhat conservative	21	23	22	18	21	22
Middle of the road	33	30	36	32	34	31
Somewhat liberal	17	19	18	21	12	16
Very liberal	11	11	6	16	10	10
Not sure	5	1	4	5	5	7
Total Conservative	34	39	36	26	39	36
Total Liberal	28	30	24	37	22	26

F3. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

	All RGGI					
	States	CT	MD	MA	NH	NY
High school graduate	26	27	25	24	23	27
Some college, no degree	14	16	18	15	16	12
Vocational training, 2-year college	11	9	7	10	10	13
4-year college/bachelor's degree	22	22	25	25	24	20
Some postgraduate work, no degree	5	6	3	3	5	5
2-3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree	15	14	13	15	12	16
Doctoral/law degree	4	5	5	5	5	3
Not sure/refused	3	1	4	3	5	4

F4. Finally, if you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, what would the total be? I'm going to read some income ranges, please stop me when I reach the range for your family—less than twenty thousand dollars, between twenty thousand dollars and thirty thousand dollars, between thirty thousand dollars and fifty thousand dollars, between fifty thousand dollars and seventy-five thousand dollars, between seventy-five thousand dollars and one hundred thousand dollars, or more than one hundred thousand dollars?

	All RGGI					
	<u>States</u>	<u>CT</u>	<u>MD</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>NH</u>	<u>NY</u>
Less than \$20,000	9	5	6	10	13	11
Between \$20,000 and \$30,000.....	9	9	7	9	9	8
Between \$30,000 and \$50,000.....	12	10	10	13	12	13
Between \$50,000 and \$75,000.....	16	15	11	13	11	18
Between \$75,000 and \$100,000.....	13	12	17	13	9	12
More than \$100,000	26	34	42	27	28	19
Not sure/refused	15	15	7	15	18	19