

Environmental Services News

ITSSD: U.S. Governors Avoid Public Debate Over RGGI While They Observe U.N. F

Article Finds That the Tough Questions Are Not Being Answered - Ca
Nine Northeastern Governors to Open Up the Regional Greenhouse
Gas Initiative (RGGI) to Public Debate

PRINCETON, N.J., Nov. 28 /PRNewswire/ -- The signatories to the U
Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change will hold their 11th
conference, and the parties to the Kyoto Protocol will meet for the f
time, each during the next two weeks in Montreal, Canada. Nine ambit
governors will be carefully observing these festivities as they place
finishing touches on the Regional Greenhouse Gas initiative (RGGI) th
will soon adopt. The new regulations will cover all of New England, N
York and part of the Delaware Valley.

These governors agree with the "Protocol's strict precautionary p
based regulatory approach to global warming ... " And, they " ... ho
draw political strength from the 'hot winds' swirling around this atm
event to create a nor'easter of their own. Since 2003, they have fun
their ... 'RGGI' up and down the northeastern U.S. coastline, through
back-door of Washington policymaking, and into the communities and po
of unsuspecting American consumers." However, they have neglected to
the American public of their endeavors and of the consequences that w
likely follow.

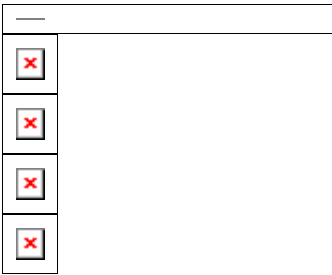
The authors ask, "Why, thus far, has there been no public debate o
merits of the RGGI? Will not the power plants and other industries t
by the RGGI be forced to pay for the air they are using? Is the RGGI i
mini, regional Kyoto treaty-in-the-making? Are there not foreign inte
national constitutional issues involved? Are not northeast consumers
who will pay in the end?"

According to Slavi Pachovski, "These are important questions that
a thoughtful response. Since these questions have remained unanswer
there is a paucity of credible and publicly available information abo
RGGI, we are compelled to ask more probing questions in an effort to
public debate."


A public debate is necessary "before the RGGI becomes a reality,"
emphasized Lawrence Kogan. "It is now time ... for the governors or
staffs to act responsibly and to step forward into the public spotlig
the purpose of initiating" this discussion. "[T]he American people de
expect nothing less."

Copies of the article can be found at:
<http://www.itssd.org/publications.htm> .

The Institute for Trade, Standards and Sustainable Development (IT
a non-partisan non-profit international legal research organization th
examines international law as it relates to trade, industry and posit
sustainable development around the world.



News Headlines from:

-  PR Newswire - United Business Media

Publishing Systems Powered By

