

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION NO. 14-193

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE REINSTATEMENT OF NEW JERSEY'S
PARTICIPATION IN THE REGIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INITIATIVE**

Councilman Murphy offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, climate change is a dire threat to the citizens of New Jersey, posing grave current and future impacts, including extreme weather like heat waves, downpours, hurricanes and flooding; and

WHEREAS, RGGI is an innovative and successful nine-state program that has reduced climate-changing carbon pollution from East Coast power plants for the last five years; and

WHEREAS, in 2011 the Christie Administration removed New Jersey from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a cap and trade program designed to limit dangerous climate-changing pollution from power plants; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Superior Court ruled in March 2014 that the Administration had acted illegally in making such a major change in policy without providing an opportunity for public participation; and

WHEREAS, the Christie Administration has now announced plans to keep New Jersey out of RGGI by repealing the rules implementing participation in the Initiative (RGGI); and

WHEREAS, according to the New Jersey Acting Attorney General , the proposed action will be published in the New Jersey register on July 7, followed by a 60-day public comment period; and

WHEREAS, according to a report by Environment Northeast (ENE), RGGI has already helped participating states:

- reduce carbon pollution by almost 30 percent;
- cut electricity prices by 8 percent;
- create more than 23,000 job-years of work;
- lock in more than \$1.8 billion in long-term savings on energy bills;
- add more than \$2.4 billion in economic activity to the region; and

WHEREAS, more than 80 percent of New Jerseyans support limits on global warming pollution from power plants; and

WHEREAS, participation in RGGI will help New Jersey comply with the proposed new national standards to limit carbon pollution from power plants, announced June 2, 2014, by the US Environmental Protection Agency to achieve mandated emissions reductions by 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Red Bank supports reestablishing New Jersey's participation in RGGI;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Red Bank opposes repealing the rules implementing RGGI in New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk shall send a copy of this signed resolution to: our state representatives, congressional representative, Governor Chris Christie, PO Box 001, Trenton, NJ 08625, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the Association of NJ Environmental Commissions, PO Box 157, Mendham, NJ 07945 and Environment New Jersey, 143 East State Street, Suite 7, Trenton, NJ 08608

Seconded by Councilwoman Horgan and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Murphy	(x)	()	()	()
Councilwoman Burnham	(x)	()	()	()
Councilwoman Horgan	(x)	()	()	()
Councilwoman Lewis	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman Zipprich	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman DuPont	(x)	()	()	()

Dated: July 9, 2014