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## **Gov. Wolf's latest climate change scheme sure to have negative effect on economy and consumers**

**HARRISBURG, Pa.** (October 3, 2019) – Pennsylvania Coal Alliance Executive Director Rachel Gleason today issued the following statement regarding Governor Tom Wolf's executive order for the Commonwealth to participate in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI):

"Governor Wolf's self-proclaimed 'low-cost solution' to fight climate change is a 'high-cost disaster' for Pennsylvania's economy and its residents. If RGGI is implemented in Pennsylvania, it would eliminate a large percentage of our total electric generation capacity, which would ultimately be replaced by fossil fuel generation from non-participating RGGI states in PJM."

"As the United States' third largest coal-producing state, Pennsylvania's coal industry provides nearly 18,000 high-paying jobs and \$6.9 billion of value on an annual basis. One-fifth of our annual coal production contributes to the generation of affordable, reliable and resilient electricity in our state, both of which would be displaced with Pennsylvania's participation in RGGI.

"RGGI is nothing but a money grab that would eventually kill all coal generation in the Commonwealth and make Pennsylvania less competitive against our neighboring energy exporting states of West Virginia and Ohio.

"Since RGGI began in 2009, the current nine RGGI states have reduced carbon emissions by 17% while having to import their electricity from other states and Canada. During the same time period Pennsylvania has reduced its carbon emissions by 28%. This market-driven reduction proves that we can have an improved environment, a flourishing economy and low-cost electricity for consumers, all without a job-crushing, over-reaching government mandate."

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**ABOUT THE PENNSYLVANIA COAL ALLIANCE:** Based in Harrisburg, PCA represents the interest of over 200 companies that directly and indirectly employ nearly 18,000 hardworking men and women in the Commonwealth, which in 2018 was the third largest coal-producing state in the nation.