



MITT ROMNEY  
GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY  
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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

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July 21, 2003

Governor George E. Pataki  
State Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Pataki,

Thank you for your invitation to embark on a cooperative northeast process to reduce the power plant pollution that is harming our climate. I concur that climate change is beginning to effect on our natural resources and that now is the time to take action towards climate protection. Furthermore, I share your interest in ensuring that the economic and security contributions made by our electricity generating system are not negated by the impact of emissions from that system on the health of our citizens.

As you may know, the Commonwealth is making major strides to reduce the environmental impact of our power plants. Specifically, I am making good on my pledge to clean up the six oldest and dirtiest power plants in the state and to bring them up to new plant standards for NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, mercury and CO<sub>2</sub>. We are the first state to enact a cap on CO<sub>2</sub>, implementing regulations that, by 2008, will reduce these emissions by 10%, removing 6,750 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per day. Furthermore, Massachusetts, along with the other New England states and Canadian provinces, has a target of reducing greenhouse gases and improving the efficiency of the grid substantially over the next 20 years.

I believe that our joint work to create a flexible market-based regional cap and trade system could serve as an effective approach to meeting these goals. I am ready to have my staff work with yours to explore how we might design such a system - one that would keep the cost of compliance as low as possible, diversify our fuels, encourage energy efficiency and renewables, and keep our energy dollars in the region. Thank you for your initiative in proposing this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitt Romney".

Mitt Romney