

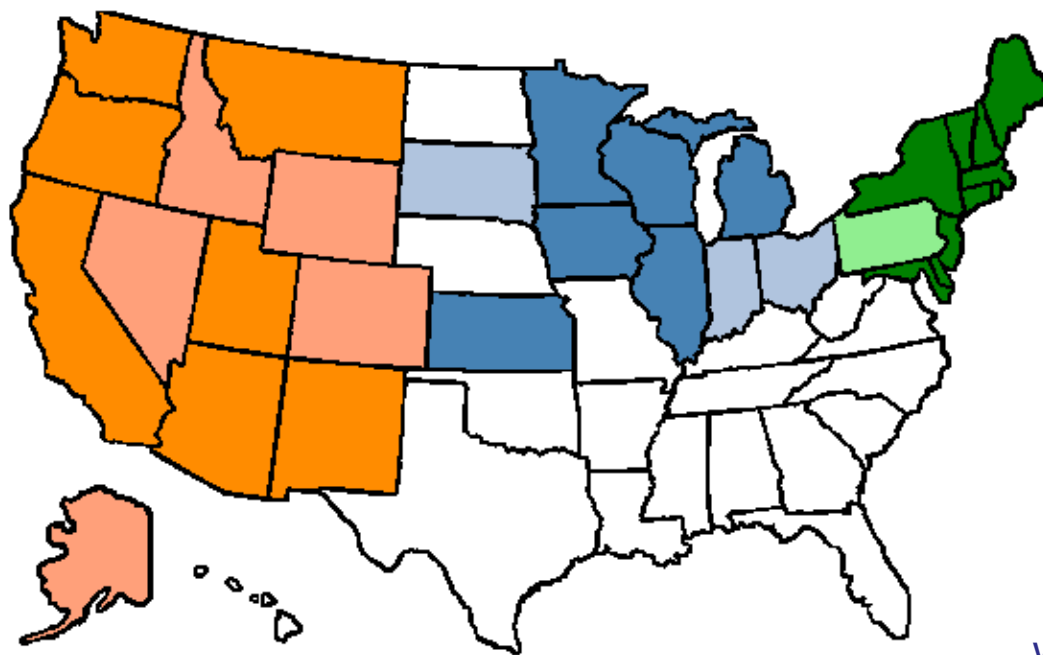
# Midwestern Greenhouse Gas Reduction Accord

Jesse Heier  
March 2, 2010



# MIDWESTERN GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION ACCORD

- Signatories: IA, IL, KS, MI, MN, WI & Manitoba
- Observers: IN, OH, SD and Ontario



Map Source:  
[www.pewclimate.org](http://www.pewclimate.org)

## PROCESS OVERVIEW

- Governors' Summit in Milwaukee, WI, November 2007
- Draft Final Recommendations completed in June 2009
- Modeling results expected soon
- Model Rule and recommendations expected to be finalized shortly after modeling results
- 3 regions have met in June and November 2009 to discuss potential linking
  - Subgroups formed

## 3-REGIONS SUBGROUPS

- Linking
  - What are the benefits of linking the 3 regional programs?
  - What design features do the regional programs have in common?
  - What steps are required to link?
- Communications
  - Develop communications strategy and also try to stay on top of developments in the NSPS area with the aim of informing legislative and EPA actions on Section 111 of the Clean Air Act

## 3-REGIONS SUBGROUPS

- Offsets
  - Agree on common high-level offsets quality criteria (These are pretty similar across the regions)
  - Beginning with the 5 offsets types currently accepted as part of the RGGI program, the 3 regions will attempt to agree on the acceptance of as many of those types as possible
- Low Carbon Fuel Standard
  - Share information, data and analysis to avoid duplication of effort and explore potential for common policy designs
  - Provide models for LCFS design on the national level through better understanding of the commonalities and differences among the three regional programs

## IMPACT ON GREAT LAKES

- According to the United States Global Change Research Program (USGCRP), the Midwest is vulnerable to climate change that could adversely affect agriculture (from floods, droughts, insects, and weeds), increase heat waves, reduce water levels in the Great Lakes (affecting shipping, infrastructure, beaches and ecosystems), more flooding and droughts, and diseases and invasive species threatening native fish and wildlife.
- While the Accord by itself won't stop climate change, by doing its part the Midwest is helping to move our nation and the rest of the world toward solving the climate problem and avoiding these impacts.

## OTHER IMPACTS

- Air quality benefits
- Economic Benefits
  - the Midwest is well positioned to create jobs and economic development from the businesses and technologies that provide climate solutions, such as biofuels, carbon capture and storage, wind energy, etc.

## NEXT STEPS

- Continue to influence the federal cap and trade discussion, using the regional program design as a backstop should US Congress fail to act
- Continue to work with 3 regions to discuss feasibility of linking regional programs, next meeting will be in May 2010



Midwestern Greenhouse Gas Reduction Accord

Jesse Heier  
jheier@csg.org  
202-624-5460

[www.midwesternaccord.org](http://www.midwesternaccord.org)