

## **RESOLUTION 32-1**

### ***RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE NEG/ECP TRANSPORTATION AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN***

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**WHEREAS** the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers have maintained a long-standing interest in the effects of human activity on the regional environment as evidenced by the Acid Rain Action Plan (1998), the Mercury Action Plan (1998), and the Climate Change Action Plan (2001); and

**WHEREAS** the NEG/ECP committed, as a region, to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 10% below 1990 levels by 2020, and to levels that eliminate any dangerous threat to our climate by 2050, and

**WHEREAS** the transportation sector is the single largest source of GHG emissions and without concerted effort to curb overall emissions in this sector and growth in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and increase the efficiency of the region's vehicle fleet, emissions from this sector could completely negate improvements from fuel efficiency and technological advances; and

**WHEREAS** the vitality of the region's economy is dependent on our ability to move goods efficiently from producers to consumers locally and internationally, and investment in our region's multi-modal transportation infrastructure will enhance our global competitiveness and reduce GHG emissions produced by the transportation sector through improvements in system efficiencies; and

**WHEREAS** the New England states and Eastern Canadian provinces are linked by an integrated transportation network, local and national regulations, market forces regarding energy, fuel diversity, vehicle technology, and the region wishes to coordinate efforts to address the environmental aspects of transportation; and

**WHEREAS** the impact of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions is not limited to the location where they are produced, the NEG/ECP wishes to take a leadership role in effecting significant emission reductions from the transportation sector within each of its member jurisdictions.



**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers accepts the Transportation & Air Quality Action Plan and directs environment and transportation officials to coordinate resources and strategies to implement the recommendations of the action plan recognizing that individual jurisdictions will pursue specific policies and actions in the plan in accordance with their overall jurisdictional strategies and at a time and in a way that they deem appropriate; and

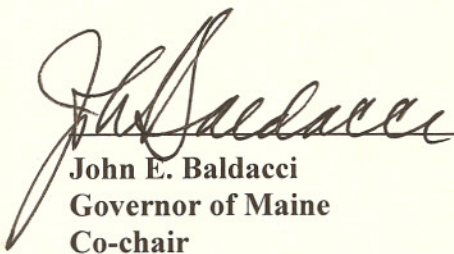
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Conference also directs the Transportation & Air Quality Committee to share expertise and best practices and coordinate planning in the areas of transportation and land-use; and


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Conference directs the Transportation & Air Quality Committee to analyze and make recommendations on opportunities to reduce GHG emissions through improved technology, energy efficiency, harmonization of truck weights, demand reduction, and investment in system improvements; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Conference directs the Transportation & Air Quality Committee to coordinate discussions among multi-modal freight and passenger system operators (road, rail, marine) and stakeholders (public and private sector) to identify opportunities that will increase the efficient movement of goods and people by improving coordination between modes of transport; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Conference directs the Transportation & Air Quality Committee to monitor program development in other countries and jurisdictions that generate price signals to fuel consumers and operate market-based mechanisms such as the exchange of carbon credits or any other efficient mechanism to fund transportation investment focused on reducing VMT and GHG emissions.

*Adopted at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the New England Governors  
and Eastern Canadian Premiers in Bar Harbor, Maine, on September 16, 2008*

  
John E. Baldacci  
Governor of Maine  
Co-chair

  
Shawn Graham  
Premier of New Brunswick  
Co-chair