Climate Framework and Laws Through the 2008 Global Warming Solutions Act, the Commonwealth set nation-leading, aggressive greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions limits of 25% below 1990 levels by 2020 and at least 80% by 2050. Executive Order 569 (EO 569) in 2016 committed the Commonwealth to develop an integrated climate change strategy that addressed both mitigation and adaptation. The Commonwealth has promulgated new regulations to ensure compliance with the 2020 emission-reduction limit and finalized declining Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) program emissions caps for 2021 through 2030.

Power Generation Massachusetts has passed comprehensive energy diversity legislation (An Act to Promote Energy Diversity, Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2016) and implemented a range of comprehensive energy policies, including the solicitation and procurement of 9.45 terawatt-hours (TWh) of hydroelectric power and 1,600 megawatts (MW) of offshore wind, as well as
energy storage targets. Investments in solar and storage continue through the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART). Governor Charlie Baker signed legislation in 2018 (An Act to Advance Clean Energy) requiring the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) to analyze the costs and benefits of requiring electric distribution companies to solicit and procure an additional 1,600 MW of new offshore wind generation. In May 2019, DOER released its Offshore Wind Study, recommending these additional procurements. Also, in response to the 2018 legislation, DOER is currently developing a first-in-the-nation Clean Peak Energy Standard, which would reduce emissions as well as provide energy security and resilience.

**Energy Efficiency** In 2018, the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) named Massachusetts the most energy-efficient state for the eighth year in a row. The first nine years of the energy-efficiency program are expected to return more than $20 billion in ratepayer benefits. The recently-approved 2019–2021 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plans continues to set nation-leading savings goals and expands the energy-efficiency programs to include fuel switching, strategic electrification, and active demand management. In 2008, Massachusetts developed one of the first “stretch” energy codes, which over 77% of Massachusetts municipalities have adopted.

**Transportation** Massachusetts is engaged with several regional initiatives to reduce transportation sector emissions, including the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI), the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers, and the Multi-State ZEV Taskforce. Governor Baker also established the Commission on the Future of Transportation in the Commonwealth in 2018 to advise his administration on future transportation needs and challenges. The Commission’s report recommends a goal that “all new cars, light-duty trucks, and buses sold in Massachusetts will be electric by 2040” and also recommends a market-based GHG reduction program for the transportation sector.

**Resilience** The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program has helped cities and towns plan and build more-resilient communities and by awarding funds and technical assistance to 71% of state municipalities. Massachusetts published and has begun implementing a first-in-the-nation integrated State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan based on the best science and data to develop operational, on-the-ground strategies. In August 2018, Governor Baker signed an environmental bond bill, which codifies EO 569 into law and invests heavily in climate resiliency, environmental protection, and municipal assistance. The $2.4 billion authorized by the bill will fund projects including, but not limited to, forest land protection programs and coastal resiliency projects.

**Climate Finance** Since 2008, Massachusetts has reinvested $306 million in RGGI auction proceeds to increase the energy efficiency of residences and businesses, provide clean-energy solutions to over 180 “Green Communities,” and support the implementation of alternative energy resources. Governor Baker sponsored S.10, An Act Providing for Climate Change Adaptation Infrastructure Investments in the Commonwealth, which proposes to raise the deeds transfer excise that is applied statewide to real estate sales, to help support climate adaptation and resilience projects. Since 2010, The Mass. Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) has invested nearly $35 million in over 250 clean-energy technology companies and climate solutions leveraging over $1.18 billion in private investment. To advance the growth and development of the region’s clean energy workforce and supply chain, MassCEC operates two critical wind industry assets: North America’s largest indoor wind blade test facility and the New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal. The Affordable Access to Clean and Efficient Energy (AACEE) Initiative includes a $15 million commitment to expand clean-energy opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents.

**Natural and Working Lands** Over the last four years (FY15–FY18) Massachusetts permanently conserved 48,396 acres (75 square miles). In addition, EEA is investing $1 million annually in grants to improve local land use practices. Early in 2019, the Commonwealth published new land use/land cover data, which when combined with carbon profiles for land cover types and re-iterated, enables the tracking of changes in terrestrial carbon stock. Governor Baker announced another $1.6 million in state and federal grant funding in April 2019 for Massachusetts towns to conduct projects relating to climate adaptation and river and wetland habitat restoration.