



MICHAEL PATRICK MCGEEHAN
MEMBER, 173RD DISTRICT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ROOM 221 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 772-4029
FAX: (717) 787-4923
E-MAIL: mmcgeeha@pahouse.net

DISTRICT OFFICE:

7731 FRANKFORD AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19136
PHONE (215) 333-9760
FAX: (215) 333-5891

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

July 12, 2006

Environmental Quality Board
P.O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

RECEIVED
2006 JUL 20 PM 2:58
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

RE: Mercury Emission Reduction Proposed
Regulation

Dear Environmental Quality Board:

I am writing in support of Pennsylvania moving forward with DEP's state-level proposal to cut mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants by 90% by 2015. Pennsylvania's power plants currently have the second highest mercury emissions in the country. Mercury contaminates rivers and lakes, and pollutes fish with this dangerous toxin. The consumption of mercury-contaminated fish can lead to serious health complications, including mental and development problems in children.

The Bush administration has weakened federal mercury regulations by allowing polluters to trade emissions credits, which means that many Pennsylvania power plants could buy their way out of substantial mercury reductions. Power plants should not be able to buy their way out of reducing their mercury emissions. In order to protect the environment of Pennsylvania and the health of my constituents, I urge DEP to move forward in enacting its proposed state-level mercury standards for coal-fired power plants in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Michael P. McGeehan, Member
PA House of Representatives
173rd Legislative District

MPM:po

RECEIVED
JUL 14 2006
ENVIRONMENTAL