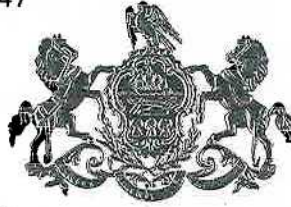


4TH DISTRICT  
LEANNA M. WASHINGTON

Original: 2547

COMMITTEES  
AGING AND YOUTH, DEMOCRATIC CHAIR  
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY  
FINANCE  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
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AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS  
POLICY



Senate of Pennsylvania

July 24, 2006

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

Dear Environmental Quality Board:

I am writing to you in support of Pennsylvania moving forward with the Department of Environmental Protection's state proposal to cut mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants by 90 percent by 2015.

It is widely known that Pennsylvania's power plants currently have the second highest mercury emissions in the country. Mercury contaminates rivers and lakes and pollutes fish with a dangerous toxin.

It is unconscionable to allow power companies to "trade" emissions credits with distant states while Pennsylvanian plants continue to pollute.

I urge DEP to move with all deliberate speed in enacting its proposed state-level mercury standards for coal-fired power plants in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania needs tough state rules to clean up mercury pollution. The citizens of Pennsylvania deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leanna M. Washington".

Leanna M. Washington  
State Senator 4<sup>th</sup> District

Cc: Independent Regulatory Review Commission – ID#7-405 (#2547)

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD