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House of Representatives

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STATE GOVERNMENT

August 2, 2006

Environmental Quality Board Rachel Carson State Office Building 15<sup>th</sup> Floor P.O. Box 8477 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

Re: Mercury Emission Reduction Proposed Regulation

Dear Environmental Quality Board:

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

The Federal mercury regulations are weakened by allowing the trade of emissions credits, which means that many Pennsylvania power plants could buy their way out of substantial mercury reductions. 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,

David J. Steil, State Representative

31st Legislative District

DJS/jld

