

Kathy Cooper

From: mahughes@state.pa.us
Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2006 10:23 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: Proposed Rulemaking - Mercury Emission Reduction Requirements for Electric Generating Units (#7-405)

Re: Proposed Rulemaking - Mercury Emission Reduction Requirements for Electric Generating Units (#7-405)

The Environmental Quality Board (EQB) has received the following comments regarding the above-referenced proposed rulemaking.

Commentor Information:

Bradford Whitman
bfwhitma@comcast.net
267 Kent Rd.
Wynnewood PA 19096 US

Supplemental Comment from Bradford Whitman Dear EQB Members: I submit the following supplemental comment regarding the proposed mercury rule. I previously commented that the past five years of mercury wet deposition data from the Pennsylvania monitoring stations, including the one closest to me in Valley Forge, provide strong scientific justification for mercury emission limits to be imposed on power plants in Pennsylvania, as proposed. The New York Times today, July 25, 2006, reported the results of a study by the Biodiversity Research Institute of a large number of ground-foraging songbirds (the Wood Thrush) in New York state that were netted and blood-tested for mercury. The significant levels of mercury found in the birds' blood reinforce the Penn State findings of a continuing problem of wet mercury deposition in the eastern United States. The transport mechanism of mercury emitted from power plant stacks into the atmosphere, then falling back to the ground via rainfall, and finally bioaccumulating through terrestrial organisms into ground-foraging birds is very straightforward. The findings of this new study strongly reinforce the scientific underpinning for imposing mercury source controls on electric generating plants, as proposed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. I appreciate your consideration of this comment. Sincerely, Bradford Whitman 267 Kent Road Wynnewood, PA 19096

Please contact me if you have any questions.
Sincerely,
Marjorie L. Hughes

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