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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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To the Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board:

My name is Patty Fleetwood, and I am a resident of Blue Bell in Montgomery County. I've learned recently that existing mercury regulations in Pennsylvania are not adequate to protect our health. I therefore applaud the effort to increase mercury regulations in the state.

I have two young girls, and I'm a school teacher. Therefore it shouldn't be surprising that the health and safety of children is a matter of great concern to me. Schools and teachers deal with all sorts of challenges, including children with behavioral and developmental problems. To learn that mercury may be the cause of many of these problems – but that our federal government is lax in controlling mercury – is deeply disturbing.

As I understand it, we can control the amount of mercury pollution relatively inexpensively. I for one will gladly pay the estimated \$1 per month additional cost on my electricity bill, if it means less mercury pollution and healthier children. I voluntarily signed up to pay a few dollars more per month for wind power in my home because I understand that this creates far less pollution.

So don't think for a minute that Pennsylvania citizens are not ready to do their part to clean up mercury pollution. We are. The only question is whether the Commonwealth is ready to do its part. The federal government has let us down, so the state must step in. I implore the State of Pennsylvania, under your leadership, to enact the mercury regulations proposed by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Thank you.