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27 May, 2014

Heather Wechter
141 Longuevue Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15228



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



To the Members of the Environmental Quality Board,

Today, I attended the Public Hearing on the Emission Reduction Proposal in Allegheny County. I had requested to speak via phone message, but did not hear back after leaving my contact information and expressing my wish to speak. Today, I did have the opportunity to speak but because I had not been confirmed to speak, came without printed copies for the EQB. I was told to submit them as soon as possible. So here is what I said:

My name is Heather Wechter and I live at 141 Longuevue Drive in Mt. Lebanon. I am a parent of three children, a Penn State Master Gardener, a member of the League of Women Voters, and a runner.

I learned of the upcoming EQB Proposal at a League of Women Voter's State and Public Health Committee meeting.

In agreement with all those who have spoken before me, I concur that the RACT Proposal is not a good one.

There are three reasons I believe the current RACT Proposal is not acceptable.

1. Coal Burning Power Plants should be required to use – at all times – the smog controlling technologies available.
2. Scientifically approved methods of measuring day – day compliance of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds, as required under the Federal Clean Air Act should be continued.
3. Individual sources should be required to provide accurate – not averaged emission levels.

As stated in Section 1, Article 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, I urge the Department of Environmental Protection to protect the rights of Pennsylvanians: The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

I urge you to nix the RACT Proposal.

Thank you,



Heather Wechter

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