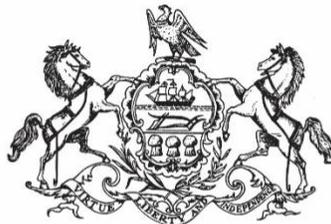


ELIZABETH FIEDLER, MEMBER
184th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG



Re: Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program

I am writing in support of Pennsylvania joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. It's crucial that we take steps today to reduce emissions here in Pennsylvania if we're going to prevent the worst impacts of the climate crisis that have already begun to be felt by our communities. Joining this proven, national, bipartisan program puts us on the right path.

A ten year review of the program done by the [Acadia Center](#) has found that since it took effect in 2009, carbon emissions from power plants in RGGI states have fallen by 47%. This decline is 90% greater than in the rest of the United States. Meanwhile, economic growth in the RGGI states outpaced the rest of the country by 31%. Public health benefits associated with air quality improvements have been estimated at nearly \$6 billion between 2009 and 2014.

RGGI is a program that will save working people money on their utilities, and help keep the air breathable. It will bring revenue to our commonwealth so that we can invest in green infrastructure, renewable energy, and do so in a way that puts people and workers first, rather than leaving them to the whims of the fossil fuel industry that shows, time and time again, when sites are closed or their safety compromised, that big corporations' top priority is their own bottom line. Our communities deserve better. RGGI is one tool to help us get to a better future. It will put us on even ground with our surrounding states, and it will help stop the harm that is being done to our families and our planet every day by big polluters.

I am proud to support RGGI, to join with the nearly two thirds of all Pennsylvanians who feel the same. We need to act decisively to stop the harm of climate change. RGGI is key to doing so.

I urge you to adopt the proposal to join RGGI.

Sincerely,

State Representative Elizabeth Fiedler
District 184, South Philadelphia