



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Monday, January 4, 2021 12:49 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com; siversen@pahouse.net
Cc: c-jflanaga@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559)

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The enclosed comment was received as part of the following testimony:

Testimony name: Public Hearing 7 (9am) - #7-559
Testimony date: 12/11/2020 12:00:00 AM
Testimony location: WebEx

Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559).

Commenter Information:

Diane Christin Esser
 Plan it Forward Community Tree Planting Initiative (addressearth1@gmail.com)
 923 Long Point Drive
 Erie, PA 16505 US

Comments entered:

I am the Founder of the Plant it Forward Community Tree Planting Initiative, Producer of Address Earth Kids and the support Coordinator for the Pennsylvania Parks and Streets Climate Preservation and Justice Act. These programs and legislation efforts supports our climate, clean air, and clean water through green infrastructure and carbon sequestration best practices, and REGGI is needed for their success.

I HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR DECADES FOR CLEAN AIR AND WATER and climate action. side by side with our region's environmental science partners to promote solutions to climate change that align with the goals of REGGI, and our government's NOAA climate education.

Plant it Forward and the Parks & Streets legislation were created because of the serious and tragic lack of green infrastructure best practices, and regulation of toxic fossil fuel energy

escalating fracking affecting our clean air and water in Pennsylvania.

One reason I am excited about RGGI is that revenue could be used to invest in green infrastructure best practices we so desperately need.

And, I've seen first hand how our children are concerned about climate change and want action.

But climate change is now a crisis and while trees are a powerful tool for carbon sequestration, this alone is not enough. We need serious action to decrease our carbon emissions in the first place, which is why we need RGGI.

Because of the lack of regulated green infrastructure best practices, the fracking activities in our state, and our fleet of dirty power plants, Pennsylvania has played a large role in contributing to the climate crisis. Power plants across the state have polluted our air and water, threatened our health, destroyed our environment, and fueled worsening climate change.

From reducing carbon pollution to investing revenue in green clean energy and carbon sequestration, we need to be committed to climate action and environmental protection through regulationlike RGGI. I am deeply invested in the success of RGGI to lower harmful carbon pollution and invest in the green solutions we so desperately need.

While some states have it right, like every state from Maine to Virginia who are already part of RGGI, other's, like Pennsylvania do not. RGGI can help make it right. In fact, if we join RGGI, Pennsylvania's carbon emissions could be reduced by 188 million tons by 2030

We are all connected with the common address of planet earth, and those connections need to become strong and consistent throughout a world. RGGI is critical to that connection and commitment for our children's future.

So, as the producer of The Green Connection Documentary, Making A Change for Climate Change, I encourage the state to join this critical program and make sure that current and future generations have a livable climate to call home.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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