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Good afternoon and thank you for this opportunity to comment on RGGI, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. My name is Annalise Stein and I am from Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania. I am currently a student at DePauw University where I major in Romance Languages and minor in Political Science and English Literature. I am planning on going to Graduate School for Environmental Policy to guide the necessary changes the United States and the world as a whole need to make to protect our environment and ensure that we have a safe, livable climate for generations to come.

As a resident of Pennsylvania, I can see the visual impacts of climate change over the past 21 years and the immediate need to reduce our impact on the climate crisis by joining RGGI. When I was younger, I used to ski in the Poconos with my family. However, each year, we were unable to ski until later in the year, due to the lack of snow. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection notes that temperatures in Pennsylvania have increased 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit in the past century and will only continue to rise. Pennsylvania, as one of the largest greenhouse gas emitters in the country, has a responsibility to be a leader in implementing climate solutions and reducing emissions.

By joining RGGI, we can reduce not only our climate pollution, but also harmful air pollution that puts our health at risk. I wake up every day and check my weather app. More times than not, the app states that there is poor air quality which may impact some people, including my cousin who has asthma. It is much harder for him to enjoy his normal activities, like playing soccer outside, due to poor air quality. What's sad is that many cities across Pennsylvania have poor air quality, which affects children, seniors, as well as low income and environmental justice communities.

Joining RGGI will not only allow Pennsylvania to reduce our impact on climate change and help to clean up our air, but it will also help us become more energy efficient. The program has raised over \$2.5 billion in the participating states for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, greenhouse gas abatement, and direct bill assistance. Joining RGGI would be very beneficial to me, my community, as well as Pennsylvania and all of its residents. I want my future to be filled with clean air, improved public health, and less pollution overall. However, this is impossible if we don't take steps today to reduce carbon pollution from all of our state's power plants.

I strongly urge you to approve the plan for Pennsylvania to join RGGI to allow for caps on pollution, reduced emissions, as well as clean air for everyone.