



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 5, 2021 2:54 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com; siversen@pahouse.net
Cc: c-jflanagan@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 8 (1pm) - #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:

Daniel Wolk
 (dwolkfp@gmail.com)
 2 Schiller Ave
 Penn Valley, PA 19072 US

Comments entered:

Good afternoon. I am Dr. Daniel Wolk, a resident of Penn Valley, PA, and an attending physician and faculty at the Bryn Mawr Family Medicine Residency Program and Thomas Jefferson University. I was also in practice in Marple, Delaware County for over 25 years. What if I told you that there was a remarkable intervention that could lower Pennsylvanians' risk of all the following health problems: cardiovascular disease, emphysema, asthma, dementia, preterm birth, and low birth weight? In fact, there is! Moreover, it saves consumers money and significantly reduces greenhouse gas pollution that threatens our present and future. That intervention is for PA to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, or RGGI. While consumers in RGGI member states have seen lower utility costs, through increasing efficiency, they are reaping important health benefits as well, thanks to lower levels of co-pollutants such as PM2.5 and groundlevel ozone. We know this thanks to peer-reviewed studies such as Lee and Park's 2019 study showing lower infant and neonatal mortality in RGGI-participating states. Shi, et al's study, published in Lancet Planet Health just last October, showed a strong association

between PM2.5 levels and the incidence of first hospital admission for Parkinson, Alzheimer, and other dementias. I could go on, but I am sure my colleagues have already cited most of the pertinent research.

Bottom line: based on our neighboring RGGI member states' experience, joining the Initiative offers Pennsylvanians better health, lower mortality among our most vulnerable, a more verdant environment, energy savings, and addresses the climate crisis in a way that preserves choice. What better way to honor our Commonwealth's promised "right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment."?

I urge the EQB and DEP to seize this unique opportunity and approve PA's joining RGGI. Thank you.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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