



Jane Klein
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Speaking as a private citizen.

I believe that Pennsylvania should join RGGI.
I say this because we are all in the midst of a climate crisis and our kids future, their ability to live in a world that is livable, is on the line.

I'd like to tell you the story of a young friend of mine named Dylan. He's now 12 years old, in 7th grade. I've known him for 10 years – I met him when he was two- - I got to know him doing childrens' programming in our local library. So I've had the pleasure of watching him grow up.

Dylan has always been interested in nature. He and his brother Gavin and I have done nature projects together—I taught them how to pot tomato plants, how to make pesto from the garlic mustard that grows here every spring and we've even dissected owl pellets together!

Through the years I have always been impressed by his curiosity, his intelligence and his caring for the natural world.

Recently Dylan agreed to talk to me about this REGGI testimony. I told him I wanted you to hear the thoughts of someone who has his whole life ahead of him.

Here is our transcript:

I said: "Dylan, what would you like them to hear?"

Dylan answered: "If we're not careful we could destroy our own habitat and the places where all the plants and animals live too.

I said: "why is this important to you and when did you know it was? "

Dylan answered: "when I was in third or fourth grade I became interested in protecting the earth. I read that humans are the only animals that have the capacity to destroy the earth. We also have the ability to save it. "

Dylan speaks for all of our kids. They know what's happening. In the twelve years that he's been alive Pennsylvania has become wetter and warmer, our farmers have gotten slammed, we've had stronger storms that have cost millions of dollars in damage...and the list goes on. Science tells us that these changes are the result of too much carbon pollution in the atmosphere.

Scientists and economists agree we have to reduce the amount of carbon in the atmosphere that comes from burning fossil fuels. We are seeing the effects of climate change more clearly we haven't done enough to fight it.

What about jobs? As many speakers have noted today, **Coal power in Pennsylvania has been declining due to market forces.** Happily a program like RGGI can lead to the expansion of Pennsylvania's 90,000+ clean energy jobs, which have grown to *outnumber* jobs in the fossil fuel industry, and position the state as a leader in the clean energy economy.

Clean energy can get the most people back to work in the most occupations in the least amount of time. Why wouldn't we do that?"

I believe that Pennsylvania should join RGGI. It will help fight the most existential threat in our world today: climate change.

We have an opportunity to write a bright future for Pennsylvania. Let's join REGGI. Let's think about ourselves but more importantly let's think about our kids.