



Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Public Comment

Date: December 14th, 2020, 6-9 pm (EST)

Ref: Testimony for CO2 Budget Trading Program Regulation

To: Pennsylvania (PA) Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

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■ name of organization: Concerned Citizen

Thank you for holding these public comments. I'm grateful to participate in support of Pennsylvania joining RGGI.

I grew up in Miami, FL and as a student I strived to do my best. My education gave me an appreciation for civic engagement, history, literature, and the sciences. So, with a good education I joined the Navy and traveled the world. I returned to Miami, married and raised a family. We lived near Biscayne Bay and I witnessed for the next 25-years the rising sea levels, damage to coral reefs, and an increase of harmful algae blooms that scientist kept reporting about. I also witnessed stronger and more frequent hurricanes than I had as a boy growing up. So, when I retired, my wife and I investigated "best places to live in climate change". So now we live in Erie, PA as an early wave of 'climate migration'. I have also encouraged my children to set roots in places where science predicts it is best to live with climate change.

So, why do I support PA joining RGGI? Because, the states that currently participate in RGGI are witnesses to its benefits:

- Cleaner air resulting in fewer hospital visits for respiratory problems.
- A 5.7% decrease in electricity prices, vs. the rest of the country where electricity prices have risen by 8.6%.
- The creation of good jobs in the green energy sector.
- Economic growth, because people want to vacation and live-in places where the air and water are cleaner.
- \$ 2.5 billion in revenue for RGGI's member states from power plant polluters. These polluters will switch to greener energy to avoid paying, thus cleaner air.
- Finally, PA is the fourth largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the nation (after CA, TX, and FL), so the impact in the region and beyond is great.

Thank you for listening and let's all join together for a cleaner Pennsylvania.