



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 8:56 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-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 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:

Rachel Ettenger
(rettenger@smith.edu)

, PA US

Comments entered:

My name is Rachel Ettenger and I am a junior at Smith College studying Environmental Science and Policy, and I am from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Thank you for letting me speak today. Here in Pennsylvania we are already seeing the disastrous impacts of global warming, including a higher frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, excessive heat, excessive rainfall, and negative human health effects. RGGI is a big piece of the puzzle to help mitigate the effects of climate change. RGGI will help the environment, economy, and the health of all Pennsylvanians.

Today I would like to focus on how my family and I have been affected by extreme weather events in recent years. I am originally from the south and lived in Lake Charles, LA right after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. This hurricane destroyed the homes, businesses, and lives of many of my immediate friends and family. However, due to the effects of climate change, extreme weather events for the entire country are occurring more frequently than ever. In 2020 alone there have been 25 named storms, with 6 of them impacting my hometown in Louisiana.

Pennsylvania is not exempt from these extreme weather events, in fact PENNDOT has reported that it has spent \$125.7 million extra in 2018 alone in flood and landslide infrastructure repairs. Climate change not only has a negative economic impact, but a warmer and wetter Pennsylvania will cause agricultural losses, a rise in pests, and worsening health for residents of the Commonwealth.

Other states have seen the benefits of RGGI, now is the time for Pennsylvania to join this successful, market based solution, invest in sustainable jobs in our transitioning energy sector, and reduce greenhouse gasses. Joining RGGI is the right decision for Pennsylvania.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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