

**Stephen Hoffman**

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 8:56 PM
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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 9 (1pm) - #7-559
Testimony date: 12/14/2020 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:

Scott Van Bramer
(sevanbramer@gmail.com)
614 Queen Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147 US

Comments entered:

My name is Scott Van Bramer and I am speaking today as a private citizen and a resident of Philadelphia.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today in support of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

I am a professor of Chemistry at Widener University and I have been interested in atmospheric chemistry since I was an undergraduate student in the 1980's when alarms were first raised about the danger of global warming.

At that time the idea that humans could have a significant impact on the planet's climate was difficult to imagine. But over the past thirty years I have watched the science progress and seen the increasing sophistication of the models used to predict the impact of climate change.

At the start most of the science was back of the envelope calculations. Our understanding about climate has improved dramatically since that time. Our understanding of atmospheric chemistry improved as we successfully fought to reverse photochemical smog, stop acid rain, and reverse the thinning of the ozone layer.

As the oil industry, politicians and other invested interests worked to oppose reductions in green house gas emissions - the scientists who study climate change continued to improve and refine their models and understanding of our planet.

We do not know with absolute certainty what will happen in the future. But the underlying science of global warming is real and scientists have been working for over 100 years to understand the details.

I have watched over the past 30 years we have added more and more detail into climate models. Models that continue to show we are on a path that is not sustainable.

This is not a Chinese hoax. The threat that climate change poses to humanity is real. The danger of inaction may be one of the greatest threats we have faced. The longer we wait the more difficult it becomes to make a difference.

In my lifetime we have listened to science about the threat of acid rain, the danger of photochemical smog, and the hazard of a thinning ozone layer. As a society we used science to guide our decisions and worked together to address these challenges.

We need to do the same now to confront climate change. RGGI is a step in that direction and it deserves our support. Given the complete absence of federal leadership in addressing climate change our state needs to do its part. RGGI is not the final solution, it is a step. A step that we need to take now.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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