

**Stephen Hoffman**

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Friday, January 8, 2021 12:15 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; 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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**Re: eComment System****The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559).**

Commenter Information:

Robert Sims
(robertgsims@aol.com)
138 Longshore Ave
Yardley, PA 19067 US

Comments entered:

Dear DEP Regulatory Comments,

I've reviewed the peer-reviewed science research - especially the research from NASA - and it tells me that climate change is real, and poses severe danger to our country, and to PA.

Therefore, it's critical that the Department of Environmental Protection finalize this proposed rulemaking to allow Pennsylvania to participate in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) beginning in January 2022. As the fifth-dirtiest electric power sector in the country, our state has a moral duty to reduce our emissions and combat climate change. We must participate in RGGI for this reason.

This CO2 Budget Trading Program will significantly reduce harmful carbon pollution and protect public health. The proceeds from RGGI must be invested in energy efficiency and renewable energy programs, thereby positioning Pennsylvania to become a leader in the growing clean energy economy.

I urge DEP to provide a mechanism to adjust the starting allowance budget if actual emissions are lower than currently projected. It can be challenging to accurately predict future emissions, and a cap that is set too high will affect the integrity of the program. And the retired coal plants

should be removed from the calculation of legacy emissions as they will not exist in 2022.

It's time to tap into RGGI's record of success, invest in sustainable jobs in our transitioning energy sector, and reduce our carbon pollution. In light of Governor Tom Wolf's greenhouse gas reduction goals set forth in Executive Order 2019-01, participating in RGGI is an essential policy step for Pennsylvania. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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