



**Stephen Hoffman**

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**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, January 11, 2021 8:49 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:

Christian Pedersen  
(pedersct2@gmail.com)  
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Landenberg, PA 19350 US

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Comments entered:

Dear DEP Regulators,

I urge the Department of Environmental Protection to swiftly finalize this proposed rulemaking to allow Pennsylvania to participate in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) beginning in January 2022.

Pennsylvania has the fifth-dirtiest electric power sector in the country, and this sector is responsible for roughly one-third of Pennsylvania's greenhouse gas pollution. As a globally significant polluter, Pennsylvania has a heightened responsibility to reduce its emissions and combat climate change. Linking with RGGI would be a monumental step in the right direction.

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. Indeed, Pennsylvania will generate hundreds of millions of dollars in proceeds annually from this program. These funds must be invested in targeted efforts to eliminate air pollution, spur job creation, support working Pennsylvanians, and help boost the state's long-term economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, it is important that a portion of the proceeds be used to help workers and communities who will be affected by the ongoing

and inevitable transition of the energy market away from coal and natural gas to cleaner sources of generation.

As an example, Maryland's use of RGGI to provide state grants to incentivize landlords to make housing more energy efficient would be one way to use the revenues to benefit both the state (improved air quality) as well as renters (lower utility costs). Simultaneously, this also increases job opportunities for those involved in the renovations.

The time has come for Pennsylvania to step up and do its fair share to mitigate climate change. The good news is, that with the program proposed by DEP, Pennsylvania can do so while creating jobs, improving its economy and furthering social justice.

That's why I'm urging you to move Pennsylvania forward on clean energy by entering our Commonwealth into RGGI.

Thank you for your consideration,

Christian Pedersen

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No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Shirley

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