



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:59 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-jflanagan@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:

Michael McLaughlin
 Keystone Station_CAMS (mmclaughlin@keyconops.com)

, PA US

Comments entered:

I urge the Citizens Advisory Council of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to reject Governor Wolf's Executive Order No. 2019-7. As a life-long resident of Pennsylvania, I desire a healthy and clean water and air as much as anyone else. The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) will not achieve these goals for Pennsylvanians, but rather will cause a negative economic impact. This Executive Order, passed without legislative or voter approval, will cause many residents to lose their jobs, electric rates to increase for all consumers, and be a competitive disadvantage to new business considering starting in the Commonwealth. For the states to the west of Pennsylvania this Order will provide them with competitive advantages because of their commonsense approach to not exceed Federal regulation. In manufacturing, energy costs are one of the largest contributors to the Cost of Goods Sold.

Many of the Coal fired Power Plants in Western PA have spent more on controlling pollution than their original price tag. With great Environmental stewardship from their leadership, they have reduced emissions such as Sulfur Dioxide, Nitrogen Oxide, Mercury, and Carbon as well as making sure the waterways are cleaner than ever. This regulation, if enacted, would have a devastating impact on the local economies of 12 counties in Western Pennsylvania and cost thousands of well-paying jobs.

While the initiative is well intentioned, it is ill advised and short sighted. The technology does not

yet exist to eliminate fossil fuel energy generation from the American landscape. We have seen the result of these efforts in Pennsylvania over the last several years. We have wind farms that kill birds, cause sound pollution, are an eye-sore and will never produce even the energy required to create them, thus adding to the carbon footprint. Solar power has proven to be a bust. The production of solar panels is cost prohibitive and creates toxic chemical waste which will require decades to decay. Western Pennsylvania would not be a candidate as a new study has shown that the Pittsburgh area has an average of 203 cloudy days per year as compared to Seattle, with 226. The future of carbon capture looks promising; however, we are not in a position to scrap our fossil plants until it become less costly and more efficient. The coal plants that will be affected by this over regulation are essential for the power grid of the Northeastern United States and as such for our National Security.

If citizens of the United States want to keep their energy independence and a diverse energy portfolio, they will make sure that this Executive Order goes no further and study all the impacts carefully.

Warm Regards
J. Michael McLaughlin
Manager Business Operations
Keystone Station_CAMS

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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