



## South Central Pa Building and Construction Trades Council

P.O. Box 85  
Ebensburg, PA 15931



SERVING: BEDFORD, BLAIR, CAMBRIA, FULTON, HUNTINGDON,  
INDIANA & SOMERSET COUNTIES

**Donald Arena, President**  
Phone (814) 472-5404  
Fax: (814) 472-5740  
Cell: (814) 341-7513

**Shawn Steffee, Sec/Treas**  
Phone: (412) 343-3072  
Fax: (412) 343-8533  
Cell: (412) 464-9201

### Subject: Proposed Rulemaking – CO2 Budget Trading Program

Environmental Quality Board  
P.O. Box 8477  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

January 12, 2021

Dear EQC,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the South-Central PA Building and Construction Trades Council and its 20 affiliated building trades unions. The SC PABTC is strongly opposed to the DEP's proposed regulations limiting CO2 emissions through participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

Based on the data and information that we have reviewed over the past 14 months this Building Trades Council sees no meaningful benefit to joining RGGI. In fact, it is very clear to us that RGGI will create great hardship to our members as well as the indirect job losses to the communities in the 7 counties we represent. The negative impact will include a large reduction in manhours for our skilled members, losses of tax revenue for school districts and municipalities that our members live in, and greatly reduce the opportunities for future investment in the energy sector that our members rely on. Granted the clean energy initiative will create some construction jobs, but it will never offset the thousands of jobs that will be lost. The members of our affiliated unions will be forced to go out of state to work on projects which will be built in states not participating in RGGI.

In closing people of this commonwealth need to realize that joining RGGI will not reduce CO2 emissions. It will only hurt the Pennsylvania economy and cause other states not willing to join RGGI to ramp up the use of fossil fuels for electric generation and in turn raise CO2 emissions.

Sincerely,

*Donald M. Arena*

Donald M. Arena  
President  
South Central Building & Construction Trades Council