



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:19 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:

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Comments entered:

I am in favor of Pennsylvania entering the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) with other Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states.

My state senator, Scott Martin, has encouraged opposition, saying it will cost too much. Regrettably, he is ignoring the costs of doing so little about the climate crisis.

This is the weather warning for my county tomorrow:

A Code ORANGE Air Quality Alert means that air pollution concentrations within the region may become unhealthy for sensitive groups. Sensitive groups include children, people suffering from asthma, heart disease or other lung diseases, and the elderly. The effects of air pollution can be minimized by avoiding strenuous activity or exercise outdoors.

The burning of fossil fuels causes this pollution – as well as climate change. My senator conveniently ignores the costs in disease, healthcare and deaths when he insists fossil fuels are “cheaper.”

We also learned during the pandemic that people living in areas of higher pollution have a greater chance of dying of covid. [Source: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/change/subtopics/coronavirus-and-pollution/#:~:text=The%20Harvard%20Chan%20study%20led,many%20Americans%20breath e%20air%20with>]

We need to transition as quickly as possible to renewable energy for our health and that of all life on our planet.

Joining RGGI, a market-based approach, is far from enough, but it is one step of many we need to take. The warming of our climate is a crisis. We are failing miserably in our response. If we take strong steps this decade, however, we have a good chance of avoiding some of the worst effects of climate change.

(I would write more, but I'm very distracted by the violent coup-attempt we witnessed last week. Somehow, the president who encouraged it with lies and exhortations is still in office.)

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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