Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov

Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:07 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:

Mary Walsh (walsh1079@gmail.com) 1079 Tomaino Dr Pittsburgh, PA 15220 US

Comments entered:

As a Pennsylvania resident and as an engineer whose career is in nuclear energy, and as a mother and environmentalist, I'm reaching out to express my support for Pennsylvania joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative has a proven track record for supporting nuclear energy, lowering carbon emissions and boosting economies. Nuclear energy has zero green house gas/ is carbon free. Models predict joining RGGI could add 27,000 to the Commonwealth and reduce carbon emissions alone by 188 million tons. The evidence is clear: Pennsylvania must become a member of RGGI to preserve our climate and realize our clean energy future.

And while RGGI will be invaluable to Pennsylvania reaching any climate goal, it also will protect what should be your highest priority – the people of Pennsylvania. Models show joining RGGI could prevent up to 639 premature deaths from respiratory illnesses and result in 30,000 fewer hospital visits in children and adults. This makes the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative imperative for the health of our people, just as much as our environment.

For these reasons, I ask that the Department of Environmental Protection upholds the proposal to establish Pennsylvania's participation in RGGI. The future of carbon-free energy in Pennsylvania and our region is in your hands.

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Thank you for your consideration.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely, Jessica Shirley

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