

# 3274

**Stephen Hoffman**

Form Letter H 125-142

**From:** EP, RegComments <ra-epregcomments@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:09 PM  
**To:** IRRC  
**Cc:** EP, RegComments; Fiona Cormack; Scott Schalles  
**Subject:** Final Count - Form Letter 8 - Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (# 7-559)  
**Attachments:** Form Letter 8\_Small Businesses (7-559).pdf

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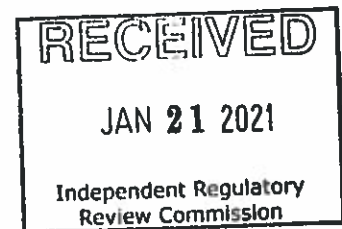
Good afternoon,

Attached is a form letter DEP received regarding Proposed Rulemaking: CO<sub>2</sub> Budget Trading Program (#7-559). We labeled this letter "Form Letter 8: Small Businesses" (IRRC Form Letter H).

We received a total of **142** copies of this letter via email during the public comment period.

Thank you,  
Laura

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*In order to prevent the further spread of COVID-19, all DEP offices will remain closed until restrictions are lifted. In the meantime, I will be working remotely to continue the mission of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and frequently retrieving emails. Thank you for your patience.*

## **FORM LETTER 8: "Small Businesses"**

**Proposed Rulemaking: CO<sub>2</sub> Budget Trading Program (#7-559)**

Dear DEP Quality Board,

As a small business owner, I strongly oppose Pennsylvania's entry into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it especially hard for small businesses to compete and succeed, and economic challenges will remain for the foreseeable future. There could be no worse time to burden businesses like mine with the higher energy costs that RGGI would bring to Pennsylvania.

I am also concerned about the thousands of jobs that will be lost when coal and natural gas-fueled power plants in the state are shuttered. Even more jobs would disappear in the communities surrounding them and the small businesses that support them, including manufacturing, transportation, raw materials, and vendor services. The ripple effect from these losses would impact the whole economy.

At a time when Pennsylvania's small businesses are suffering, RGGI would just set us further back. This seems especially irrational when modeling shows that RGGI will have little impact on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions over time.

Please reconsider this course of action and withdraw this burdensome, anti-small business, carbon tax regulation!