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Stephen Hoffman

Form Letter J 392-427

From: EP, RegComments <ra-epregcomments@pa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:17 PM
To: IRRC
Cc: EP, RegComments; Fiona Cormack; Scott Schalles
Subject: Final Count - Form Letter 10 - Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (# 7-559)
Attachments: Form Letter 10_Cut Carbon Pollution (7-559).pdf

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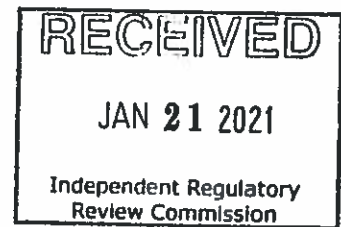
Good evening,

Attached is a form letter DEP received regarding Proposed Rulemaking: CO₂ Budget Trading Program (#7-559). We labeled this letter "Form Letter 10: Cut Carbon Pollution Without Delay" (IRRC Form Letter J).

We received a total of **427** 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 10: "Cut Carbon Pollution Without Delay"

Proposed Rulemaking: CO₂ Budget Trading Program (#7-559)

Dear Environmental Quality Board,

I'm writing to urge the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) to adopt the proposed CO₂ Budget Trading Program, which would enable us to work together with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) states to cut our carbon pollution without delay.

We are in the midst of a growing climate crisis with all ten of the warmest years on record occurring since 2005, and with 2020 on course to be the second-hottest year ever. In Pennsylvania, excess heat is already impacting our health, the environment, and our economy. We cannot afford to ignore the crisis any longer. We must act now.

This rule will create a cap on carbon emissions with each ton available under the cap represented by an emissions allowance. Electric generators larger than 25 megawatts will need to obtain allowances equal to the pollution they emit, most of which will be purchased through an auction with proceeds deposited in Pennsylvania's Clean Air Fund.

Money from the Clean Air Fund can then be invested in projects that will help fight climate change, promote clean energy and energy efficiency, and otherwise reduce air pollution. In doing so, this will bring about a net increase of 27,000 jobs to Pennsylvania and increase our gross state product by nearly \$2 billion. This is the sort of action we need.

The framers of our state's Constitution had the foresight to include an environmental rights amendment which makes it clear we have a responsibility to protect our environment not only to ourselves but also for generations yet to come. It is vital that we do our part and cut carbon pollution.

Sincerely,