

#3274

Stephen Hoffman

Form Letter P 1-140

**From:** Griffin, Laura <laurgriffi@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 9:35 AM  
**To:** EP, RegComments; IRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; Iversen, Sarah A.; Glendon King; Troutman, Nick; Collins, Timothy  
**Cc:** Reiley, Robert A.; Shirley, Jessica; Landis, Allen; Demjanick, Jennie; Book, Hayley  
**Subject:** Notice & Final Count - Form Letter 16 - Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559)  
**Attachments:** Form Letter 16\_Nuclear Matters (7-559).pdf

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Good morning,

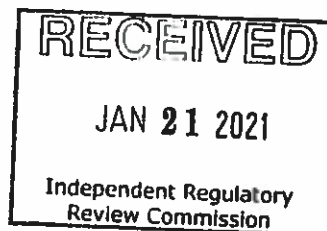
Attached is a form letter DEP received on January 14, 2021, regarding Proposed Rulemaking: CO<sub>2</sub> Budget Trading Program (#7-559). We have labeled this letter "Form Letter 16: Nuclear Matters."

We received a total of **140** copies of this letter via email.

(Please note that the cover letter stated that 145 comments were attached. There were only 144, four of which were unique comments that we previously submitted to IRRC and Committees individually.)

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 16: “Nuclear Matters”**

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

As a Pennsylvania resident, 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. 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.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,



January 13, 2021

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

### **Nuclear Matters Coalition Statement to Pennsylvania's DEP**

Nuclear Matters is a national coalition that works to inform the public and policymakers about the benefits of nuclear energy. We are a diverse community of over 600,000 advocates that support solutions encouraging current and future nuclear energy use, articulating the positive impact of nuclear power on issues such as public health and environmental equity.

On behalf of our 600,000+ advocates, we strongly support Pennsylvania joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. In doing so, Pennsylvania's leaders are seizing the opportunity to build a more resilient and sustainable economy while taking a significant step towards achieving the state's ambitious carbon reduction goals.

There is no doubt that Pennsylvania needs smart, economically viable solutions to protect its environment, air quality, and public health. Experts say we have just over a decade to stop irreversible damage from climate change, and the *most efficient* way to tackle these issues is by increasing our generation of carbon-free energy—which means sources like nuclear power must continue to be a key component of the state's clean energy solutions.

We applaud Pennsylvania and state leaders like Gov. Tom Wolf for taking steps to enter the Commonwealth into RGGI, and we encourage them to continue doing everything in their power to fight climate change and support carbon-free nuclear energy alongside other clean energy technologies and solutions. By pledging to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, Pennsylvania is asserting itself as a leader in clean power generation, bolstered by its commitment to nuclear power and a growing share of renewable energy sources.

By joining RGGI, Pennsylvania will help lead our country's charge against climate change and ensure Pennsylvanians can enjoy the benefits of nuclear carbon-free energy and renewables for decades to come. On behalf of Nuclear Matters' 600,000 advocates, we strongly support and applaud the Environmental Quality Board's proposal to confirm Pennsylvania's participation in RGGI. Pennsylvania's clean energy future looks bright because of this commitment, and we look forward to the swift enactment of the RGGI program.

In the pages following, you'll find comments submitted from 145 of Nuclear Matters' advocates in Pennsylvania who also support this proposal and Pennsylvania's participation in RGGI.

Sincerely,  
Nuclear Matters