



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 2:35 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com
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:

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Comments entered:

A tax on any business to subsidize another competing business is wrong, but that's exactly what RGGI in Pa will be. This is nothing more than a tax on an industry that, as a whole, has invested billions of dollars to meet every environmental regulation that has been thrown at them over the last several decades. Tom Wolf has "never seen a tax he didn't like", so why would this be any different? Other than a few special interests folks (who likely don't even live in Pa), almost no one who will be impacted by RGGI supports Gov. Wolf's initiative.

Most people who are not from western Pa have no clue what coal and natural gas mean to this area. RGGI, if implemented in Pa, will be extremely detrimental to this part of the state. The go-to argument for RGGI is that it will generate revenue used to create jobs in the renewable sector. First, I can assure you that most jobs created in the renewable sector will not be comparable to what our union employees are used to earning. Second, most of the jobs they refer to being "created" in other states that implemented RGGI are construction jobs. Great, you created X amount of jobs for a few years until all your coal plants went out of business and stopped paying the carbon tax. They're not talking about creating forever jobs, but they're not the least bit concerned about spreading misleading information. It fits their agenda.

RGGI is well known to push jobs across state lines in states that have adopted it. Even the most diehard climate change activists agree that emissions locally are the same as emissions globally.

So why does the Wolf administration want to implement something so economically harmful to Pa if it will have no real impact on carbon emissions?

If all these glaring issues aren't enough, look to California for a cautionary tale. This past summer, in record heat, their citizens had to endure rolling blackouts thanks to accelerated retirements of fossil fuel facilities.

The electric generation business is evolving as most businesses do over time. Every year, fossil fuels play a smaller part in powering our world without the intervention of job killing measures like RGGI. RGGI in Pa will only accelerate the loss of jobs in an already struggling area.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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