



## Stephen Hoffman

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**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:25 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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The enclosed comment was received as part of the following testimony:

**Testimony name:** Public Hearing 1 (9am) - #7-559  
**Testimony date:** 12/8/2020 12:00:00 AM  
**Testimony location:** WebEx

### Re: eComment System

**The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559).**

Commenter Information:

Emily Petrucci  
 (emily.petrucci@gmail.com)  
 404 Taylor Street  
 Media, PA 19063 US

Comments entered:

Hello. My name is Emily Petrucci. I'm a resident of Media, Pennsylvania, about 13 miles west of Philadelphia. I am speaking today to urgently support our state's commitment to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

When I explained what RGGI is to my 13 year old daughter recently, she was aghast to learn that there are currently no limits on the amount of carbon dioxide coal & natural gas power plants are permitted to dump into our air. To her, RGGI is a "no brainer." Our children see solutions clearly to the problems we've made too complicated. As parents, while we wish we could promise clean air for our kids to breathe, we are all dependent on our elected officials to do their jobs and swiftly find meaningful pollution protections. RGGI is one such solution, and we need to act fast.

Thankfully, a recent poll found that 79% of Pennsylvanians (including 66% of Republicans)

support placing a limit on carbon pollution from power plants. Pennsylvanians prefer lawmakers who support strong action to combat climate change. And Pennsylvanians are already experiencing the effects of climate change today with increased flooding, landslides, extreme weather, and disease-carrying pests like ticks. Record summer heat has been threatening the ability of our children to safely attend outdoor camps, play sports, and enjoy the typical climate I was accustomed to growing up.

Pennsylvania has the 5th dirtiest power sector in the nation. The American Lung Association's most recent State of the Air report has once again issued failing grades to the Philadelphia region for poor air quality. "Unhealthy ozone" days have become commonplace as part of our local weather forecast. I am a healthy 42 year old with no history of chronic illness, and over the past two years, I have been experiencing asthma for the first time in my life. States that participate in RGGI have reduced their power sector carbon dioxide pollution by 45% since 2005. Pennsylvania needs to take similar action now. We need to set clear, declining limits on carbon pollution from the power sector and at a rate consistent with what the climate science demands to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

Decades from now, our children and grandchildren will look to the decisions we make today. They will ask us what we did in the critical moment to help safeguard their health and their future, and I am speaking today to fight for them. I implore you to use your positions of power for good and allow your decisions to be guided by the science available to us. Thank you.

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No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Shirley

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