



## Stephen Hoffman

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**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:24 PM  
**To:** Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com  
**Cc:** c-jflanagan@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:

Sumner Macpherson  
 (sumner\_macpherson@redlands.edu)  
 70 Sandywood Drive  
 Doylestown, PA 18901 US

Comments entered:

My name is Sumner Macpherson and I am from Doylestown, Pennsylvania. Thank you for holding these hearings. I am a strong proponent of PA joining RGGI.

Here in Pennsylvania we are already seeing the impacts of global warming, including the record-breaking number of days without snow, more intense heat, and more frequent and intense storms. RGGI is a significant piece of the puzzle to help mitigate the effects of climate change. RGGI will help the environment, economy, and the health of Pennsylvanians.

I want to focus on the public health of Pennsylvanians. About 10% of Pennsylvanians have asthma, according to 2018 data from the CDC, and children, the elderly, and low income Pennsylvanians are the most affected. The pandemic has made us all more aware of the devastating results of health disparities and risk factors, making pollution reduction an even more pressing matter.

Joining RGGI could help prevent hundreds of premature deaths and around 30,000 hospital visits for respiratory related illness a year. Air pollution reductions from RGGI will particularly benefit our children, the elderly, and those who live and work in areas with poor air quality.

Other states have seen the benefits of RGGI, now is the time for Pennsylvania to join this successful solution; it's time to invest in sustainable jobs in our transitioning energy sector, reduce greenhouse gasses and pollution, and keep our citizens healthier. Joining RGGI is the right decision for Pennsylvania.

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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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