



## Stephen Hoffman

**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, December 11, 2020 10:27 AM  
**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:

Sandra Moore  
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Comments entered:

The regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (known as RGGI) was launched more than a decade ago. It is a pioneering cap-and-invest program to cut carbon pollution from the electric sector across the northeast. Participating states have cut their carbon pollution in half. This is especially important because electricity generation in Pennsylvania is the state's largest source of carbon pollution. It is important because it will create new jobs and saving electric generated energy customers millions of dollars on energy bills. The best improvement is in our natural environment and the air we breathe.

Cutting air pollution is particularly important as it aggravates problems like lung and heart disease and may weaken a person's ability to survive COVID-19.

Most of the states bordering Pennsylvania have already joined. Now, it's time for the Keystone State — the biggest polluter in the region by far — to sign up and slash its carbon pollution.

This initiative can also ensure that the revenue it generates is invested into the communities that need it the most. That means cleaning up frontline communities overburdened by pollution and providing support for communities economically dependent on fossil fuels as the state transitions towards clean energy. We have to ensure that these critical opportunities are seized so nobody is left behind and every Pennsylvanian has access to clean air.

I am asking Governor Wolf and the Environmental Quality Board to commit Pennsylvania to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. I also am asking that the cap and invest program prioritize the needs of environmental justice to underserved communities.

Real change is needed and these points need to be addressed:

- CO2 emissions from sources such as oil refineries, steel mills, natural gas production will continue to go unregulated.
- there is no guarantee that the proceeds of auctions of CO2 emissions will be used to fund energy efficiency and green energy projects. It is not clear whether money from the Clean Air Fund could be disbursed to pay for energy efficiency and green energy programs administered by the Allegheny County Health
- The proposed rulemaking does not identify any criteria that will be used to determine which energy efficiency and green energy programs will be funded from the proceeds of the auctions of CO2 allowances.

Sandra Moore

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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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