

**Stephen Hoffman**

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:07 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:

Dennis Hamsher
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Comments entered:

As a insurance agency owner, I know personally how our clients, business owners, are being tested with decreasing sales, increasing costs and government regulation. I strongly oppose Pennsylvania's entry into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it especially hard for small businesses to compete and succeed, and economic challenges will remain for the foreseeable future. There could be no worse time to burden businesses like our clients with the higher energy costs that RGGI would bring to Pennsylvania.

I am also concerned about the thousands of jobs that will be lost when coal and natural gas-fueled power plants in the state are shuttered. Even more jobs would disappear in the communities surrounding them and the small businesses that support them, including manufacturing, transportation, raw materials, and vendor services. The ripple effect from these losses would impact the whole economy.

At a time when Pennsylvania's small businesses are suffering, RGGI would just set us further back. This seems especially irrational when modeling shows that RGGI will have little impact on CO2 emissions over time.

Please reconsider this course of action and withdraw this burdensome, anti-small business, carbon tax regulation!

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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