



Testimony for CO2 Budget Trading Program Regulation

By Fred E Kraybill

7211 Thomas Blvd

Pittsburgh, Pa 15208

fredkraybill@yahoo.com

412-335-9449

Thomas Blvd Group

My name is Fred Kraybill. I live in the Point Breeze section of Pittsburgh. I am a manager and part owner of Thomas Blvd Group a small business which rents 6 apartments. We are also a solar powered business with solar arrays on the roof and in the yard beside our property. Thank you for this opportunity to express my concerns about climate change at this virtual hearing. I am here to express my strong support for Pennsylvania to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

I want to thank Governor Wolf for taking this bold initiative to address climate change. I also ask the state legislature to take action and pass legislation that appropriates funds from RGGI to be used for clean energy and energy efficiency projects in this state so that we can reduce our carbon impact and save ratepayers money on their electric bills.

My foremost reason for commenting today is that climate change is real, it's already having devastating impacts, and we must act quickly or risk more devastating economic impacts. We must listen to scientists and we must stop externalizing the costs of coal, oil, and gas. Around the world we are seeing more severe weather events such as heat waves, drought, forest fires, rain with flash flooding events, etc. While we know that there have been climate changes in the past because science has informed us of this, we also know that we are currently pumping too much CO2 into the atmosphere and that CO2 is starting to overwhelm the climate system. This is the clear consensus of scientific

research. Many scientists have said that 350 parts per million of CO₂ in the atmosphere is the limit we should allow and we have already gone over 400 parts per million. For too long the marketplace for energy has been blind to the reality of climate change. We burn coal, oil, and gas to make energy but the costs of the pollution and the damage to the climate have been externalized and paid by the public. This must stop! The costs of climate change and pollution must be factored into the price of energy. We must put a price on carbon pollution and gradually raise that price to reflect the cost of carbon pollution to society. That price on carbon pollution will remove the blinders from the marketplace and accelerate the transition to clean energy. RGGI is currently working well in 10 states in the Northeast and Pennsylvania needs to join to do its part to address climate change.

Lastly, I would like to address the myth that we have to choose between jobs and a healthy economy and having a clean environment. I firmly believe that switching to clean energy sources will not only create a clean environment and a stable climate, it will also create jobs and a strong economy. If we don't take these necessary steps, we will not only wreck our environment but we will also wreck our economy as worsening weather events destroys our infrastructure.

Pennsylvania is far behind many other states in deploying renewable energy. It is hard for solar and wind projects to get built here because of cheap natural gas. Implementing RGGI in Pennsylvania will help renewable energy compete. Home owners and businesses will be able to install solar because of an improved return on investment and utility scale solar farms and wind farms will be able to expand across the state because they will be more competitive in the market. Our state must take this bold action to cut carbon pollution. The solution to pollution is renewable, it's doable.