



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:00 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-jflanagan@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:

Patrick Kahle
 (patkahle@zacherlmotors.com)
 665 Borovick Rd
 Sligo, PA 16255 US

Comments entered:

As a small business owner, I strongly oppose Pennsylvania's entry into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

My name is Patrick Kahle and, along with 2 of my siblings, we own and operate a heavy and medium duty International truck dealership in Clarion, PA. Our business has been in operation since our grandparents started it back in 1940.

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 mine 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. This type of supporting business is the lifeblood of our 33 employee organization. The ripple effect from these losses would impact the whole economy and could have a devastating effect on our 80 year old business.

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!

If you would like to discuss further, please call me at 800-832-8580.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

Jessica Shirley
Director, Office of Policy
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063
Office: 717-783-8727
Fax: 717-783-8926
ecomment@pa.gov