



My name is Dane Winkler. I live in Butler, PA with my wife Nikki and our two children. I work for Butler County Children and Youth Services. Butler is a small town 30 miles north of Pittsburgh. Our town thrived in the hey-day of steel and glass production. Our claim to fame is that Butler is where the first Bantam Jeep rolled off the assembly line in 1940. President Eisenhower called it, "one of the decisive weapons the U.S. had during WW II." We celebrate with an annual Jeepfest in June, but not in 2020. We're keeping our fingers crossed for 2021. Since the evolution of the steel industry, lost jobs from NAFTA, automation and general ebbs and flows of the business world Butler has never rebounded properly. Our poverty level is well above the national and state average. But none of that can take away the pride that many feel for our town. Steel is still produced in Butler and Pittsburgh to this day. But it's nowhere near as good as it once was. Pittsburgh has enjoyed a resurgence of job creation over the past 15 years. Butler; not so much. We need help. We need jobs. RGGI is a program that can help the struggling people. If you look at Butler County's job numbers they are actually better than almost every county that surrounds us. But those numbers is carried by the thriving growth in Cranberry and Adams townships. Which border northern Allegheny County. If you split the numbers between Northern and Southern Butler County you will see a massive difference. I know, I live there. And I work for the only daily newspaper in Butler County; The Butler Eagle.

Furthermore, Nationally 8.4% of children live with asthma. Pennsylvania = 10%. Allegheny county = 11%. If you drill down to the spots in Allegheny County where children live with Asthma the majority of them are kids who live near the rivers, where the steel producing plants sit. Clairton Coke Works this year paid fines and settled lawsuits totaling over \$2 million for all of the air, water and ground pollution they've been causing. Reducing Asthma and a living in a job producing economy is only a fraction of what a program like RGGI can do for the state of Pennsylvania. But it should be enough to join it.

This is direct from the Pennsylvania State Constitution, Article I, section 27: The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

We need to do the right thing. For the planet, for the people, for the economy, for our futures and our childrens' futures. Join RGGI, cut pollution, leave carbon in the ground, create jobs, and preserve our environment.

Thank you to the Department of Energy and POWER for organizing this and for allowing me to tell my story and share my passions. I yield my time, thank you.