



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:08 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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The enclosed comment was received as part of the following testimony:

Testimony name: Public Hearing 5 (1pm) - #7-559
Testimony date: 12/10/2020 12:00:00 AM
Testimony location: WebEx

Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559).

Commenter Information:

Lana Gulden
 (lanagulden@yahoo.com)
 255 Honey Locust Lane
 Northumberland, PA 17857 US

Comments entered:

I'm testifying today as a mother and grandmother who wants to leave a livable planet for my children, my grandchildren and everyone's grandchildren. Climate change is the greatest threat to future generations. We have a short period of time to make meaningful changes to reduce the damage we are doing and have already done.

Pennsylvania has some of the most polluted air in the nation. I see it as an obligation to remedy it - not only for Pennsylvania citizens, but also for the country and the world. Since power plants are the number one source of carbon dioxide it makes sense to start there.

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, RGGI, is one of the options that has proved to be effective in the states that are participating. They are showing reductions in emissions, not only of the greenhouse gases, but also an 88% reduction of sulfur dioxide and a 47% reduction of nitrogen oxide. The cuts in these gases, which are causes of respiratory and heart related

diseases, have saved the RGGI states up to \$11 Billion in health care costs. An estimated 30,000 trips to Emergency Rooms have also been avoided. However, the financial cost is not the only benefit. There is no price to put on the improved quality of life of these vulnerable citizens. In fact some might say that improved quality of life is priceless.

Some states saw increases in their electricity rates in the first years of participating in RGGI. However these costs have been offset by the decrease in health care costs. With the investments of the carbon allowance proceeds in renewable generation, the rates fell below their previous amounts, allowing those consumers to save \$2.5 Billion on their electric bills.

For the financial and physical health of our citizens, for the health of Pennsylvanians, for the health of the planet, I find it immoral to wait another day to act on this environmental disaster which is only picking up speed every day.

Pennsylvania could and should go from being the among the five states with the most polluted air to being among the five states with the cleanest air.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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