



## Stephen Hoffman

**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2020 10:16 AM  
**To:** Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com; siversen@pahouse.net  
**Cc:** c-jflanagan@pa.gov  
**Subject:** Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559)

**CAUTION: \*\*EXTERNAL SENDER\*\*** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



### Re: eComment System

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

Commenter Information:

Shawn Welch  
 (shawnwelch@outdrs.net)  
 1059 Third Avenue  
 Hellertown, PA 18055 US

Comments entered:

Good Morning -

New taxes should be approved by the legislature before executive implementation. Bypassing the legislature is not just bad politics, it is deceitful and damaging to our governmental structure and integrity.

There is no universal agreement among the scientific community that we can impact climate changes by hobbling our economy through aggressive reductions in the availability of fossil fuels. The long view of history shows that America has in fact become one of the cleaner nations of the world with regards to carbon burning pollution.

Additionally, all such tax proposals should be undertaken only after a rigorous analysis of the economic and quality of life implications of the rule under consideration. It is clear the people that will most negatively impacted are those who will be unable to pay the newly raised costs for gasoline and heating fuel. The negative impacts to our state economy will be dramatic. We already have the highest gasoline in the nation. Increasing them further only further hurt Pennsylvanians.

This rule must not be implemented through executive action. It should be debated in the state

legislature and only implemented if passed by that body.

Shawn Welch  
Colonel, US Army (retired)

---

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](mailto:ecomment@pa.gov)