



## Stephen Hoffman

**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 23, 2020 12:18 PM  
**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-jflanaga@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:

Jonathan Hooper  
 (commer91@zerogravity-ma.com)  
 125 N 26th St  
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Comments entered:

Dear Environmental Quality Board,

I'm writing in my personal capacity and also in my role for the last ten years as Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Environmental Resource Consortium, to urge the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) to adopt the proposed CO2 Budget Trading Program, which would enable us to work together with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) states to cut our carbon pollution without delay.

We are in the midst of a growing climate crisis with all ten of the warmest years on record occurring since 2005, and with 2020 on course to be the second-hottest year ever. In Pennsylvania, excess heat is already impacting our health, the environment, and our economy. We cannot afford to ignore the crisis any longer. We must act now.

This rule will create a cap on carbon emissions with each ton available under the cap represented by an emissions allowance. Electric generators larger than 25 megawatts will need to obtain allowances equal to the pollution they emit, most of which will be purchased through an auction with proceeds deposited in Pennsylvania's Clean Air Fund.

Money from the Clean Air Fund can then be invested in projects that will help fight climate

change, promote clean energy and energy efficiency, and otherwise reduce air pollution. In doing so, this will bring about a net increase of 27,000 jobs to Pennsylvania and increase our gross state product by nearly \$2 billion. This is the sort of action we need.

Pennsylvania's Constitution includes an "environmental rights amendment" which makes imperative that its government act to protect our environment. DEP has a clear and certain duty to act.

Sincerely,

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No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Shirley

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