



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-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:

Sydelle Zove
 (szove@comcast.net)
 644 Harts Ridge Road
 Conshohocken, PA 19428 US

Comments entered:

Dear Environmental Quality Board,

I'm writing 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--at the regional level, state level, and even at the municipal level. I am especially pleased that my township, Whitmarsh, in Montgomery County, has pledged to do its part, and that its recently adopted Comprehensive Plan Update opens with a robust commitment to implementing Code modifications that acknowledge and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

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 should 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.

The framers of our state's Constitution had the foresight to include an environmental rights amendment, which makes it clear we have a responsibility to protect our environment not only for ourselves, but also for generations yet to come. It is vital that we do our part and cut carbon pollution now.

Sincerely,

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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