



## 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)

**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:

Wendy Smith  
(wendyk320@yahoo.com)  
320 Prowell Dr  
Capm Hill, PA 17011 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.

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.

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 to ourselves but also for generations yet to come. It is vital that we do our part and cut carbon pollution.

I have been attending Cumberland County's Climate Action Zoom meetings because I believe that if we must address climate change now at all levels, from the personal to the international. The consequences of not doing so are too dire to consider. We, all of us, must act immediately. The Department of Environmental Protection should be a leader in this effort.

Sincerely,

---

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