



Stephen Hoffman

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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:

Claus Makowka
 (cmakowka@yahoo.com)
 627 Morewood Ave
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213 US

Comments entered:

My name is Claus Makowka and I live in Pittsburgh, PA. I am testifying as a private citizen. I am speaking in support of Pennsylvania joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), I have been alarmed about the contribution of greenhouse gas emissions to climate change for over a decade. Careful stewardship of our planet is a primary ethical value for me. For six years I have been active politically, calling for steps to reduce and eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions, recognizing that the scope of the problem requires collective political action in addition to personal action. Understanding the contribution of automotive greenhouse gas emissions, over 5 years ago I purchased an electric vehicle as my only car. Two years ago, my wife also replaced her car with an electric vehicle. While a good first step, I am acutely aware that the next step requires reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the generation of electricity. I recognize that externalizing the impact of greenhouse gas emissions by putting a price on the emissions is necessary to achieve this. RGGI provides an effective way of doing this at the regional level in the absence of appropriate action at the federal level. All credible economic

studies agree that putting a price on carbon emissions is an effective step while also being neutral or a small benefit to the economy. And the economic studies frequently fail to account for the health benefits of improved air quality and risk mitigation related to avoiding rising sea levels and extreme weather events. Economic justice is important to how RGGI is implemented. Therefore, I favor a rate payer assistance reinvestment scenario. This helps mitigate the effects of electric rate increases on poorer citizens and results in a more equitable sharing of the economic impact of reducing carbon emissions, since poorer citizens have lower per capita emissions. Thank you for hearing my testimony in support of Pennsylvania joining RGGI.

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