

#3274

Form Letter L 1-1,071

**Stephen Hoffman**

**From:** Griffin, Laura <laurgriffi@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 31, 2020 12:55 PM  
**To:** EP, RegComments; IRRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; Iversen, Sarah A.; Glendon King; Troutman, Nick; Collins, Timothy  
**Cc:** Reiley, Robert A.; Shirley, Jessica; Landis, Allen; Demjanick, Jennie; Book, Hayley  
**Subject:** Notice - Form Letter 12 - Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559)  
**Attachments:** Form Letter 12\_Protect Children's Health (7-559).pdf

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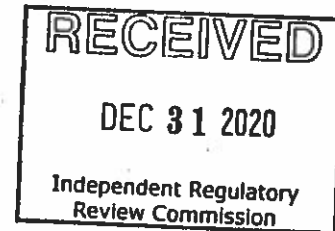
Good afternoon,

Attached is a form letter DEP has received regarding Proposed Rulemaking: CO<sub>2</sub> Budget Trading Program (#7-559). We have labeled this letter "Form Letter 12: Protect Children's Health." To date, we have received 1,071 copies of this letter via email.

Thank you and have a safe and happy New Year!

Laura

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*In order to prevent the further spread of COVID-19, all DEP offices will remain closed until restrictions are lifted. In the meantime, I will be working remotely to continue the mission of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and frequently retrieving emails. Thank you for your patience.*

## **FORM LETTER 12: “Protect Children’s Health”**

Proposed Rulemaking: CO<sub>2</sub> Budget Trading Program (#7-559)

Dear . Environmental Quality Board,

I am supportive of Pennsylvania participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) to cut power sector air pollution and protect the health and future of children across the state.

As the third largest greenhouse gas polluting state in the nation and home to the fifth dirtiest power sector, Pennsylvania has an outsized responsibility to cut climate-warming carbon pollution. Linking to a program such as RGGI is critical to achieving reductions in greenhouse gas pollution outlined in Governor Tom Wolf’s 2019 Executive Order. RGGI has been proven to work: States that participate in RGGI have reduced power sector carbon pollution by 45 percent since 2005.

By reducing climate-warming carbon pollution from the power sector, there will also be reductions in toxic pollutants like mercury, particulate matter or soot, sulfur dioxide, and heavy metals that come from burning dirty fuels like coal in power plants. Reductions in air pollution can improve public health and reduce asthma attacks, preterm births, heart disease, respiratory disease, cancer and even premature death.

This is good news -- especially for populations that are vulnerable to the impacts of air pollution and climate change such as the elderly, children, pregnant women, those whose health is already compromised, communities of color, and low-income communities. It is imperative that meaningful safeguards are put in place to ensure frontline and environmental justice communities benefit from a rule that reduces carbon pollution from the power sector.

Pennsylvania's power sector carbon pollution protections need to be comprehensive and protective of our children's health and the climate.

I look forward to continuing to participate in the regulatory process.

Sincerely,