

Kathy Cooper

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:06 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRR; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com
Cc: c-jflanaga@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Control of VOC Emissions from Oil and Natural Gas Sources (#7-544)

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.



The enclosed comment was received as part of the following testimony:

Testimony name: Public Hearing 1 - Proposed #7-544
Testimony date: 6/23/2020 12:00:00 AM
Testimony location: WebEx

Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Control of VOC Emissions from Oil and Natural Gas Sources (#7-544).

Commenter Information:

Ryan Johnson-Evers
(rjohnsonevers@gmail.com)
6939 Willard St
Pittsburgh, PA 15208 US

Comments entered:

Oral comments given at 23 June 2020 hearing.

These links provide access to the attachments provided as part of this comment.

Comments Attachment: [Johnson-Evers VOC Rule Hearing Comments.docx](#)

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

3254

I am calling in as a Pennsylvania citizen to support a stronger oil and gas industry emissions rule with no loopholes. Our local and global communities need the most protective methane and VOC regulations to cut air pollution.

By now we have a general understanding of the harmful effects of air pollution and have broad support behind climate justice actions. At the same time, the Trump administration is sabotaging past protections. This is a time for states to take leadership, and Pennsylvania in particular since we are the second largest gas producing state and third largest greenhouse emitter. This is an opportunity for Governor Wolf to move towards his states goals of 26% reduced emissions by 2025 and 80% by 2050. Methane must be included in the regulations, as it accounts for 25% of human caused global warming. Frequent and regular testing must be mandatory, especially since a recent study showed that PA natural gas operators emit over 16x the methane they report.

From my experience as a young adult and working with youth, I know that the climate crisis is an increasingly important one that affects our hearts, minds, and political decisions. I have worked as a Case Manager for the Youth Development Program at AJAPO, a Pittsburgh-based refugee resettlement agency, and as a youth group leader at my church. I am always impressed by these young people, because they not only understand the problem of climate change, their lives are defined by it. This is not a political ideology to be debated. This is a life and death issue, a public health crisis, and a future with racial justice implications that we must live through and pass on to future generations.

As we live in recognition of climate change, climate grief is something that we live with on a daily basis. We are worried about dangerous uncertainties of the future and don't see decision makers doing enough to protect our collective health.

For these reasons and many more, I urge the strongest possible restrictions on methane and VOC. I thank you for carefully considering our comments and for taking action to create a more sustainable and just future.

