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From: klauschers@verizon.net
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To: IRRC
Subject: Comment on Final Regulation CO2 Budget Trading Program (7-559)

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Unlike the majority of “commenters” I see responding to this issue, I am not using a boilerplate template, I have actually done some research into the RGGI initiative and I **enthusiastically** support PA joining it.

- 1) It is a matter of dire urgency to lower our greenhouse gas emissions. Time has run out to make these changes. The latest UN Climate Report makes that abundantly clear.
- 2) I have seen a lot of canned comments from “small business” owners. One that stands out for its ludicrousness is about underestimating the “negative impacts of the ‘green energy’”. The only negative impact I foresee is giant fossil fuel companies having lower profits. They will survive; humankind and many other plants and animals will not.
- 3) RGGI already has a positive track record, it’s not like PA would be joining a speculative venture. There are 12 years of data proving that the RGGI model works. Pennsylvania should have been one of the leaders of the initiative rather than a Johnny-come-lately. However, better late than never.
- 4) “RGGI states have reduced their carbon emissions while still experiencing economic growth. Power sector carbon emissions in the RGGI states have declined by over 40% since 2005, while state economies have grown 8%.”
- 5) “Programs funded through RGGI investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy, direct bill assistance, and greenhouse gas abatement have benefited more than 3.7 million participating households and 17,800 participating businesses. These investments have saved participants money on their energy bills, created jobs, and reduced pollution.”

It is long past time for Pennsylvania to join its neighboring states in the RGGI.

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