

**Stephen Hoffman**

From: Sue Edwards <sueedwards79@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 29, 2021 3:25 PM
To: Irrchelp
Subject: Why PA should join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

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To whom it may concern:

I am a member of the Swarthmore Environmental Advisory Council, although I am not writing in that official capacity at this time. My husband and I own a home with solar panels that provide most of the electricity we use, as well as an all-electric Chevy Bolt, which we charge on that solar energy. And when we recently needed to replace our water heater, washing machine, and stove (all of which broke down within a few months!) we switched from methane gas to electric appliances. We now hang up our clothes rather than replacing the gas dryer, which also broke down!

As I write, Hurricane Ida is making landfall on the Louisiana coast with winds among the strongest in about 170 years. Its strength, we are told by forecasters, has been boosted by the warm waters of the gulf. It is but one of many indications, along with the heat dome effect in northwestern US, forest fires in California, floods in Tennessee, and other extreme weather events in the US and around the world, that we are indeed in a new environment created by the carbon and methane in the atmosphere. The scientists who wrote the recent IPCC report, and who are known to be cautious in their pronouncements, gave an alarming picture of the era we are now in.

It seems to me to be imperative that we take the most effective steps we possibly can, as quickly as possible, to reduce fossil fuel use and to switch to renewable energy. Joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative would allow Pennsylvania to join our neighboring states who have already taken this step and have seen a 47% increase in their GDPs. Funds from RGGI in other states allow investments in a more sustainable future than the trajectory we are now on.

I hope you will not let short-term considerations cloud your judgment but will act in the true, long-term best interests of Pennsylvania residents. The long-term is quickly becoming short-term!

Sincerely yours,

Susan C. Edwards
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We are the first generation that can put an end to poverty and we are the last generation that can put an end to climate change. -- Ban Ki-Moon, former Sec'y Gen. of the UN