

Dear Commissioners:

We, the employees of CONSOL Energy's Bailey Preparation Plant, write to express our opposition to Regulation #7-559 (IRRC# 3274): CO2 Budget Trading Program and urge the Independent Regulatory Review Commission to reject this proposed final regulation.

This regulation is a unilateral attempt to join Pennsylvania to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and impose a carbon tax on Pennsylvania's consumers and businesses. The impact of this proposed final regulation will result in job losses and utility rate increases in entire regions of our state, most in Western Pennsylvania that are the heart of Pennsylvania's bituminous coal industry, and all for no environmental benefit to our commonwealth.

The proposed regulation would dramatically alter Pennsylvania's energy generation portfolio by causing the near immediate closure of the state's remaining coal-fired power plants. These closures will result in the loss of thousands of jobs supplying and supporting those power plants, a substantial reduction in property taxes in communities where we live and work that host the power plants and the coal mines that supply them, and higher electric rates in our state.

We are asking that you intercede on behalf of the citizens of the commonwealth, and on behalf of the impacted communities that have been denied their right to confront the bureaucracy that seeks to destroy their lives and livelihoods. Please reject this harmful regulation, lacking basis in Pennsylvania law and in common sense.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CONSOL Energy Bailey Preparation Plant Employees

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