

**Stephen Hoffman**

From: John Speers <atglenrecycling@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 9:45 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: Oppose Proposed Regulation #7-559: CO2 Budget Trading Program

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Dear IRRC Regulatory Reform,

Government needs to stop needless tax and regulation that will have a detrimental economic effect on the community that my business serves. This proposal will increase costs to consumers and small business, which means lower income and economic growth for my business and the businesses in my area.

As a small business owner, I strongly oppose Pennsylvania's entry into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it especially hard for small businesses to compete and succeed, and economic challenges will remain for the foreseeable future. There could be no worse time to burden businesses like mine with the higher energy costs that RGGI would bring to Pennsylvania.

I am also concerned about the thousands of jobs that will be lost when coal and natural gas-fueled power plants in the state are shuttered. Even more jobs would disappear in the communities surrounding them and the small businesses that support them, including manufacturing, transportation, raw materials, and vendor services. The ripple effect from these losses would impact the whole economy.

At a time when Pennsylvania's small businesses are suffering, RGGI would just set us further back. This seems especially irrational when modeling shows that RGGI will have little impact on CO2 emissions over time.

Please reconsider this course of action and withdraw this burdensome, anti-small business, carbon tax regulation!

Sincerely,

John Speers
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