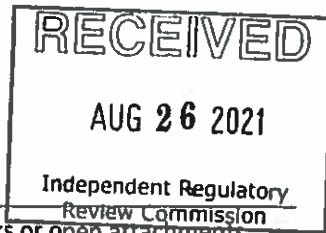


3274

Form Letter D 194-197

Stephen Hoffman

From: Elizabeth Seltzer <Elizabeth.Seltzer.221660193@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2021 9:01 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: I Support Final Draft Regulation 50 Pa. B. 6212, IRRC #3274



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Dear Independent Regulatory Review Commission,

I strongly urge you to support the final draft regulation, Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Budget Trading Program, to amend 25 Pa. Code Chapter 145. The final regulation was submitted to the Commission on July 28, 2021, and a public hearing is scheduled for September 1, 2021.

This rulemaking would establish a program to limit the emission of CO2 from fossil-fired electric generating units (EGUs), with a nameplate capacity equal to or greater than 25 megawatts (MWe). This rulemaking will not only greatly impact the environment, it will also benefit the economy, improve human health, and protect agriculture and tourism.

According to the United States Energy Information Administration, Pennsylvania generates the fifth most CO2 emissions from EGUs in the country. CO2 emissions are a major contributor to regional climate change impacts. This final draft regulation and program would help reduce CO2 emissions greatly and by doing so, ultimately help this Commonwealth in terms of human health, environmental impacts, and our economy.

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as the summer of 2018, and increased periods of drought, heat waves and large storms. All these harms can be attributed to our changing climate. One big factor in these changes is the effects of greenhouse gases and a major contributor to GHG is CO₂. These impacts can cause major environmental harm in numerous ways such as decreasing water supplies, degrading water quality, causing more disease and pests to impact our agriculture, killing native trees and plants, and more.

By changing the trajectory of climate change, we can help our agricultural community and food security in the Commonwealth. Climate change is upending normal weather patterns, leading to periods of both intense precipitation and drought, both of which pose great difficulties for Pennsylvania farmers. Increased precipitation leads to difficulty in planting crops and harvesting meaningful yields and an increase in plant disease and destruction caused by pests. In the inverse, more frequent droughts will require an increase in irrigation to sustain crops and may lead to a large decrease in water quantity throughout the Commonwealth. Higher temperatures also impact livestock such as dairy cows and poultry. Stress caused by heat will decrease milk and egg production. To mitigate, the farmers will have to include purchasing extensive, and potentially expensive, cooling systems to protect the animals.

Further, forests and plants that typically help by naturally reducing carbon dioxide, can also become overwhelmed and stressed if changes are not made to CO₂ emissions. Higher temperatures and ground level ozone can contribute to destroying chlorophyll, reducing survivability of tree seedlings, and increasing plant disease and pests. These impacts to our forested and natural areas can ultimately impact outdoor recreation and tourism. Currently, during this pandemic it has been shown that outdoor recreation has been utilized much more and has helped with both mental, physical, and emotional health.

Without making changes in greenhouse gas emissions in this Commonwealth, water quantity and quality will be greatly impacted. Climate change is leading to sea level rises, which greatly impacts the Delaware River estuary and Philadelphia's drinking water supplies. It also leads to flooding and nutrients rushing into our local waters which can and has led to harmful algal blooms. Higher temperatures in local waters also leads to problems with aquatic species spawning and more. Native fish may need to migrate to cooler areas to survive, impacting Pennsylvania's sport fishing and more. Swimming and recreating in local waters can become increasingly dangerous due to poor water quality from increased pathogens. Many of these incidences are currently happening throughout the state and is not uncommon. However, these incidences will continue to increase if changes do not take place to mitigate the harm. These final draft regulations provide the change that is needed. Finally, approving these final draft regulations would be in line with our state Constitution, specifically, Article I, Section 27 by ensuring that Pennsylvanians are receiving their fundamental right to clean air and pure water. These types of regulations are exactly how the Commonwealth acts as a trustee in accordance with the Constitution. By keeping our citizen's interests in mind and acting with prudence and loyalty by approving regulations that reduce CO₂ will help to conserve and maintain our air and waters for generation yet to come as required by the state Constitution.

Economic Impacts:

The final draft rulemaking will not only combat climate change, as discussed above, but will provide a positive economic value to the Commonwealth. According to the modeling shown within the RAF, between the years 2022-2030 this rulemaking will lead to a Gross State Product of \$1.9 billion and net increase of 27,752 jobs within the Commonwealth. There are also many other economic benefits that may be more difficult to project but will certainly be impactful to the Commonwealth. These benefits will come from less emergency funding having to be spent for extreme weather events, such as increased flooding, increased droughts, and tornado/storm damage. The Commonwealth will have less infrastructure damage caused by flooding, outdoor recreation and tourism industries will be protected, drinking water issues and costs (in protecting water quality and improving quality) will be mitigated, and more. The benefits will be felt by citizens too: fewer extreme weather events will lead to less crop and livestock damage, decrease in health-related impacts and healthcare (for example, asthma), fewer pest related problems in agriculture and humans (such as Spotted Lanternflies and tick-borne diseases).

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For these reasons and more, I urge you to consider approving and finalizing the rulemaking.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Seltzer
11 W Ridge Rd
Media, PA 19063
ees01@earthlink.net

Stephen Hoffman

From: Daniel Dunn <Daniel.Dunn.285816316@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2021 9:16 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: I Support Final Draft Regulation 50 Pa. B. 6212, IRRC #3274

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Sincerely,
Daniel Dunn
3 Atkinson Ln
Newtown, PA 18940
dsdunn19@yahoo.com

Stephen Hoffman

From: Susan Busch <Susan.Busch.456442032@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2021 9:32 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: I Support Final Draft Regulation 50 Pa. B. 6212, IRRC #3274

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Sincerely,
Susan Busch
1300 N Bradford Rd
Newtown, PA 18940
susanbusch@verizon.net



Stephen Hoffman

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Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2021 9:40 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: I Support Final Draft Regulation 50 Pa. B. 6212, IRRC #3274

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1181 Joann Ave
Ephrata, PA 17522
cjsandoe@yahoo.com

