



August 29, 2021

To: PA IRRC

Comment on PA joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

IRRC members:

I am writing with very strong support for Pennsylvania joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). As you likely know, PA is one of the largest greenhouse gas emitters in the country due to our ongoing fossil industry including coal, oil and natural gas extraction. It is imperative that we join RGGI to begin reducing our emissions from electricity generation, the primary target of RGGI. Using RGGI's market based approach has been demonstrated over and over again by the other member states to have huge benefits to the state and community. This will be a win-win decision for the health and well-being of all of our residents and the lush PA environment., and importantly the most vulnerable residents in our state—those living near power plants (low income neighborhoods) and individuals with chronic health issues such as COPD, heart disease and asthma. In addition, RGGI will provide designated funds for energy efficiency efforts for residential and commercial sites, counties and municipalities to be able to build resilient systems to protect our communities from the consequences of what we are already seeing with climate change. RGGI member states have shown the significant positive impacts of our changing climate.

In my community, the past few summers have been the hottest on recorded. We have had torrential rains, with streets and homes being flooded, losing electricity for multiple days, and a large number of downed trees caused by an increasing number of severe storms. And it is predicted that it is going to get far worse without long term commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. My township outside of Philadelphia is fortunate to have a large tree canopy with many old large trees. When these come down they cause devastating damage are known to cause injury or even death to those in their fall path. I have seen the impacts first hand.

I urge you to take this important step towards preserving our future. Pennsylvania does not want to be left behind.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nancy Chernett  
441 Athens Ave.  
Wynnewood, PA 19096