



Stephen Hoffman

From: Molly Wagle <molly.wagle@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 29, 2021 3:27 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: Support for Pennsylvania participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)

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Dear Members of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Pennsylvania.

I strongly urge you to rule in favor of Pennsylvania participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), the CO₂ Budget Trading Program.

As I am sure you are aware, the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report issued earlier this month issued some dire warnings for humanity. One of the conclusions from the report is that global warming of 1.5°C and 2°C will be exceeded during the 21st century unless deep reductions in carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades. If you have not read the report yet, I strongly urge you to review at least the summary for policy makers at <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/#SPM>.

This program is a perfect opportunity to act in line with what is needed. This program will help reduce the carbon dioxide that Pennsylvania emits from fossil fuel-fired power plants, which will significantly reduce this greenhouse gas that is contributing to climate change. We have already seen a summer of extreme heat waves, fires, hurricanes, and flooding, and it will only get worse unless we act now. Additionally, the proceeds from the RGGI program can be used to improve energy efficiency, increase clean energy, provide support for electric vehicles, and help transition workers out of the fossil fuel industry and into more sustainable jobs. This is an opportunity to put Pennsylvania on the map to be a leader in this area.

Importantly, the money paid by the fossil fuel-fired power plants is not a tax, but a fee for the damage that they have done to our atmosphere, our ecosystems, and our lives. RGGI provides proven benefits in reducing emissions and returning money back to states. We can have a better, healthier, and more sustainable future in Pennsylvania, and participating in RGGI is a big step towards achieving that goal.

Please vote for the CO₂ Budget Trading Program, which will clearly benefit all Pennsylvanians.

Sincerely,

Molly Wagle