

**Stephen Hoffman**

From: Stephen Hoffman
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 1:31 PM
To: irrc@state.pa.us
Subject: FW: RGGI comment to IRRC 9-1-21

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Hi IRRC committee,

Please find below my comments to the DEP relative to RGGI for submission on September 1, 2021.

Art Leopold
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Hi, my name is Art Leopold. I live in Erie, Erie County, PA. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on Proposed Rulemaking: Carbon Dioxide Budget Trading Program aka RGGI. Although I belong to various local and regional environmental groups, I speak today as an Environmental activist and private citizen.

The PA Office of Environmental Justice is a watchdog for designated areas encompassing low-income communities and communities of color. One of the primary tasks that are their responsibility is to minimize and, if possible, avoid adverse impacts to these citizens. Also, they must involve the public in gathering information about businesses that may influence the well-being of the residents in the areas and publically disseminate promptly any notices that are pertinent to the impacted communities. The DEP and EJAB, realizing the disproportionate harm from historically intentional neglect that these communities suffer, must consider equitably the economic benefits that are deserved by these groups

One of the advantages that may accrue from joining the RGGI effort is the possible distribution of resources to the member states that will then be available for the benefit of our communities, such as the EJ areas that are so deserving of the investment. I hope that the Commonwealth will give favorable consideration to the request to join the eleven other New England and Mid-Atlantic states in an initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the power sector while generating opportunities for economic growth for the citizens of Pennsylvania!