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13TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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Secretary John Quigley
Department of Environmental Protection
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SECRETARY'S OFFICE

NOV 12 2015

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DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Dear Secretary Quigley –

I write concerning the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan (CPP), with specific focus on a potential Pennsylvania State Implementation Plan developed to comply with the CPP.

I have serious concerns about the CPP proposal. As you are likely aware, the Obama administration's own numbers show that carbon dioxide emissions have already been significantly reduced in recent years, with much of the reduction coming from the electrical generation sector (see attached.)

Further carbon dioxide restrictions have the potential to force potentially disruptive power plant closures and significant cost increases for every rate payer in Pennsylvania. Also, reliability issues remain a serious concern. According to a report issued in March 2015 by the University of Pennsylvania Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, *"The impacts of the CPP on electric reliability are unknown..."* Embarking on a dramatic plan to reshape the Commonwealth's power generation capability with serious unknowns surrounding increased costs and decreased grid reliability is extremely problematic.

In addition, much of the coverage promoting the CPP has placed an inordinate focus on the benefits of solar and wind power, with a much lighter position on nuclear power. While certainly solar and wind power are, as renewable energy sources, invaluable components of our overall electric grid, one would have to believe that if the goal is truly to encourage carbon-free electrical generation technology, nuclear power would be a core component.

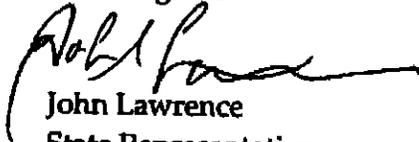
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The overwhelming majority of carbon-free electricity generated in Pennsylvania today comes from nuclear power plants. In my view, any plan put forward should fully value current nuclear energy generation capabilities in the Commonwealth. Specifically, a mass-based compliance approach that includes both new and existing resources, as opposed to a rate-based approach, would ensure proper value is placed on nuclear power generation in the Commonwealth.

As you are aware, Act 175 of 2014 requires DEP to submit any proposed CPP compliance plan to the General Assembly for approval prior to submission to the EPA. I will be watching this issue closely, and any proposed plan developed by DEP, with an eye towards a market-based approach that leads to cost-effective power generation and strong overall reliability of the electric grid.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Kind Regards -

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Lawrence", written over a horizontal line.

John Lawrence
State Representative
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania