

Fact Sheet
Stability and Affordability Via Emissions Reductions (“SAVER”) Regulation

- Today, February 5, 2026, a group of individual and public interest groups submitted a demand for action on the rulemaking petition filed by 192 petitioners with the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) over seven years ago. The petition included a regulation, the Stability and Affordability Via Emissions Reduction (SAVER) Regulation, that would reduce Pennsylvania’s greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2052.
- Pennsylvania contributes almost one percent of the world’s GHG emissions, more than most other states and nations. If GHG emissions are not reduced quickly, there is a broad scientific consensus that the harms we are already experiencing from climate change will increase dramatically and could be cataclysmic for our children and grandchildren. There is also a strong scientific consensus that the need to act to avoid the worst consequences of global warming is urgent. The SAVER Regulation would reduce GHG emissions 40% by 2030 and make Pennsylvania carbon neutral by 2052.
- The SAVER Regulation would establish a program to reduce GHG emissions across all sectors of the economy. The total amount of GHG emissions for the Commonwealth would be capped and reduced gradually each year. By providing for trading of emission allowances, the market-based approach provides companies with predictability and flexibility, while incentivizing technological innovation.
- The SAVER Regulation, with recommended provisions for allowance allocation and expenditures from the Clean Air Fund, will promote affordability by creating a market for reducing climate pollution. The proposed market would level the playing field of energy production and use so that low cost, clean technologies will be employed more rapidly, driving lower costs to consumers. By deploying the power of market-based forces to efficiently and cost-effectively reduce GHG emissions, the SAVER Regulation is a long-term solution that will provide Pennsylvania businesses with a stable regulatory structure.
- The Commonwealth recognized the need to reduce GHG emissions when it adopted the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) regulation. That regulation would have partially addressed GHG emissions but never went into effect and was recently abrogated. As a result, Pennsylvania has no regulatory program in place that would meaningfully reduce GHG emissions.
- Article I, § 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution requires the government to conserve and maintain our public natural resources for generations yet to come. Continued inaction to reduce GHG emissions violates our fundamental constitutional rights and those of future generations.
- The EQB and DEP have clear and flexible legal authority to adopt and to implement the SAVER Regulation’s emissions control program under the Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Act.
- SAVER’s approach has been used successfully in the California-Washington-Quebec programs and the RGGI states program to reduce emissions while causing greater economic growth and job creation than would have been seen without these programs.

- SAVER, with the recommended provisions, will promote affordability and address budget challenges by:
 - Providing a secure funding stream for public transportation by directing allowances and Clean Air Fund monies to support and improve public transportation and thereby also reducing transportation costs;
 - Reducing electricity costs (or cost increases) by directing allowances to electric distribution utilities;
 - Providing health benefits that will translate into health insurance savings; and
 - Reducing electricity and heating and cooling costs by directing auction revenues to investments to increase energy efficiency and conservation; low-cost electricity generation; improved electricity transmission systems; and other clean technologies and programs.