July 16, 2018

The Honorable John Shimkus, Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Subcommittee on Environment  
2125 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Paul Tonko, Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Subcommittee on Environment  
2125 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shimkus and Ranking Member Tonko,

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, the largest, broad-based business advocacy organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which represents nearly 10,000 member companies of all sizes and industries, I am writing in support of Rep. Morgan Griffith’s legislation to modernize and clarify the Clean Air Act’s New Source Review program. This legislation will provide much needed certainty and clarity to the regulated community, in addition to promoting continued environmental protection and economic development.

As our organization outlined in testimony presented to the committee this past February, the current NSR process disincentives improving the efficiency of manufacturing, industrial and certain power generation facilities in Pennsylvania and other states. Recently enacted tax reform is providing an opportunity for these facilities to expand to capture rising economic growth and to further improve environmental performance, provided the regulatory climate affords them the opportunity to do so. As discussed in the testimony, the current NSR process has resulted in our members reporting having shelved projects which would have resulted in reduced emissions.

Further, hundreds of thousands of workers in Pennsylvania rely on the continued vitality of these sites, as do hundreds of thousands of more in neighboring states where tens of billions of dollars of manufactured goods are sent for sale. In addition, Pennsylvania is the largest net exporter of electricity in the PJM grid, which provides power to more than 60 million Americans in 13 states and the District of Columbia.

Reform to the New Source Review program can and should be done in a manner that allows for continued economic growth and the furtherance of the significant progress made with respect to improving our country’s air quality. As this legislation will help us achieve both these aims, we encourage members of the committee to vote in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Kevin Sunday  
Director, Government Affairs  
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry