



Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

Senator Mary Jo White
Chairman

Patrick Henderson, Executive Director

Room 168 • State Capitol Building
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June 21, 2006

Steve Crawford
Secretary for Legislative Affairs
Office of the Governor
238 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Secretary Crawford:

I received your letter regarding Senate Bill 1201, a bill I introduced along with Senator Musto to reduce mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants.

As you know, my committee held three public hearings on this issue prior to a vote on Senate Bill 1201. Without going into detail on each of the claims in your letter, I believe we have adequately responded to them in a manner that ensures mercury reductions will occur in Pennsylvania, and that the public's health will be properly protected. I'm happy to provide detail on any of the specifics of primary concern to the Governor. Yesterday's overwhelming Senate vote shows that, as members waded through the rhetoric and misinformation, they became convinced that Senate Bill 1201 will protect the health of Pennsylvanians.

We have worked successfully and in good faith together on several difficult issues, most notably Governor Rendell's desire to expand Growing Greener. My door has been open from the very beginning to discuss the issue of how best to reduce mercury emissions. Your letter speaks of an ongoing effort to achieve compromise; however, while this issue has been around for nearly two years, no one has ever approached me from your office or DEP to discuss it. We cannot achieve a responsible compromise if there is no open line of communication. In this absence, supporters of Senate Bill 1201 have no alternative but to aggressively seek its successful enactment.

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss this matter directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Jo White".

Mary Jo White, Chairman
Senate Environmental Resources
& Energy Committee