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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION 333 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR, HARRISBURG, PA 17101

October 24, 2002

Honorable George J. Miller, Chairman Environmental Hearing Board Rachel Carson State Office Building 400 Market Street, 2nd Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: Regulation #106-7 (IRRC #2264) Environmental Hearing Board Practice and Procedure

Dear Chairman Miller:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved your regulation today. Our Order is enclosed and is available on our website at www.irrc.state.pa.us.

We appreciate the joint effort that went into producing a regulation that meets the criteria and intent of the Regulatory Review Act.

Sincerely,

John R. McGinley, Jr.

Chairman wbg

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Arthur D. Hershey, Majority Chairman, House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

Honorable Camille George, Democratic Chairman, House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

Honorable Mary Jo White, Chairman, Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee Honorable Raphael J. Musto, Minority Chairman, Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION APPROVAL ORDER

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held October 24, 2002

John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman, by Phone Arthur Coccodrilli Robert J. Harbison, III John F. Mizner

Regulation No.106-7 Environmental Hearing Board Practice and Procedure

On April 10, 2002, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Environmental Hearing Board (Board). This rulemaking amends 25 Pa. Code 1021. The proposed regulation was published in the April 20, 2002 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on September 26, 2002.

This regulation modifies provisions of the Board's rules of practice and procedure. These modifications include: amending the definition of "pleading"; a provision for signing documents filed with the Board; adding a provision for complaints filed against the Department; including timelines for discovery and termination of proceedings; and making miscellaneous corrections.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Environmental Hearing Board (35 P.S. §7515(c)) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

This regulation is approved.

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John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman