



Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

Senator Mary Jo White
Chairman

Patrick Henderson, Executive Director

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May 31 2007

The Honorable Kathleen A. McGinty, Chair
Environmental Quality Board
16th Floor Rachel Carson Building
P.O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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**Re: Proposed Rulemaking – Air Quality Permit
Streamlining (#7-408)**

Dear Chairperson McGinty:

We are writing to express our support for the above referenced proposed rulemaking. These draft revisions were approved for public comment at the Environmental Quality Board's January 2007 meeting.

We commend the Department for exploring opportunities to streamline permit review and approvals, while ensuring that the public's ability to submit substantive comments on permit applications is not negatively impacted. The proposed revisions will reduce costs to the regulated community, enhance coordination between the Department and permit applicants and ensure the timely review of minor source permit actions. The regulations will continue to ensure that the public receives timely notice and information regarding major plan approvals or permits.

Additionally, we encourage the Department to carefully consider the comments it receives from the public and regulated community on these revisions. Several comments shared with the Committee on this proposed rulemaking have offered constructive suggestions on how to further refine the plan notice and review process, and we are hopeful that these revisions will be included in the final rulemaking.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed rulemaking.

Mary Jo White, Chairman
Senate Environmental Resources
& Energy Committee

Sincerely,

Raphael J. Musto, Democratic Chairman
Senate Environmental Resources
& Energy Committee