

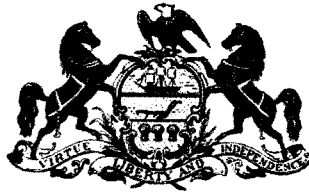
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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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Republican Chairman
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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

The Honorable Arthur Coccodrilli
Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th floor
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli:

I am writing to you today regarding the "Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards" (7-421), which was approved by the Environmental Quality Board on September 16, 2008.

The regulation includes a standard requiring a significant reduction of the substance known as Molybdenum, which is discharged, as part of the effluent from a variety of Pennsylvania manufacturers. It is important to note that neither the United States Environmental Protection Agency nor most of our surrounding states have adopted a similar standard, and concluded Molybdenum is not necessary for Pennsylvania to maintain compliance with federal water quality standards.

There is also a lack of evidence that would indicate Molybdenum has an adverse impact upon human health, conversely, there is available data to suggest that an **insufficient intake** of Molybdenum can have an adverse effect upon human health. I would further point out, that a number of major Pennsylvania employers as well as the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, have provided compelling testimony regarding the rationale, cost, and even the ability of currently known technology to reduce the amount of Molybdenum being discharged. I also must question whether the Department of Environmental Protection has provided sufficient scientific data to justify a standard that exceeds federal water quality standards.

Given the concerns I have described, I would urge the Independent Regulatory Review Commission, to disapprove the Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards (7-421) Final Rulemaking. I appreciate your attention to this matter and consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Representative Scott Hutchinson
Republican Chairman
Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
Pennsylvania House of Representatives