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October 1, 2008

Environmental Quality Board
PO Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

To Whom It May Concern:

The Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership is Erie County's unified voice of the business community, representing more than 800 businesses and over 50,000 employees. The chamber is the lead investment agency for business in Erie County, serving as a gateway into the economic development system. Additionally, the chamber leads the effort to identify key regional initiatives that promote economic health and leads the effort to attract, retain and expand business in the region.

As the unified voice of the Erie regional business community, the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership opposes the proposed Bluff Recession and Setback Regulations. We believe the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has made blanket designations of all of Erie County, contrary to the results of their own study.

The arbitrary designations of all of Erie County and Erie City as Bluff Recession Hazard Areas will place serious limitations on the development of lakefront property, further hindering the economic vitality and development of the Erie region.

It is our position and recommendation that the addition of the City of Erie to this regulation be removed. We also strongly recommend that the setback designations be derived solely from the formula and specific calculations stated by the DEP, not the arbitrary numbers proposed in this regulation. We believe the current zoning and building codes are more than sufficient to ensure safe and reasonable development along the lakefront.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Dible".

Jim Dible
President and CEO
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