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Tate, Michele

From: Meadows.Anthony@epamail.epa.gov
Sent: Monday, December 29, 2008 12:24 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Cc: Wisniewski.Patti-Kay@epamail.epa.gov; Khaled.Ghassan@epamail.epa.gov; Tymchenko.Nick@epamail.epa.gov; Smolski.Robert@epamail.epa.gov; Daniels, Lisa
Subject: Comments - Safe Drinking Water (Ground Water Rule)

EPA Region III submits the following comments on the proposed rulemaking Safe Drinking Water (Groundwater Rule) published in the PA Bulletin, Volume 30, dated Novmeber 29, 2008.

*** Minor Clarificaitons to the Varience and Exemption Requirements in Chapter 109**

Based on our review at htis time, EPA believes that the proposed regulations are no less stringent than the federal Variance & Exceptions Rule.

***CCR Provisions of the Ground Water Rule**

EPA believes that Chapter 109 does not require amendments to capture the CCR provisions related to the Ground Water Rule, as these provisions of the federal Rule have been adopted by reference. EPA encourages Pennsylvania to include mention of these CCR requirements in the preamble to the final rule in order to better inform the regulated community.

*** Ground Water Rule Provisions**

Based on our review at this time, EPA believes that the proposed regulations are no less stringent than the federal Ground Water Rule.

While EPA Provides these initial comments to be helpful and provide clarity, EPA continues to retain its authority for primacy program approval related to the Ground Water Rule and other proposed rule adoptions and looks forward to Pennsylvania's formal submission of a request for revision of the Commonwealth's primacy program in accordance with 40 CFR Section 142.12.

Anthony Meadows
PWSS Team Leader
Drinking Water Branch (3WP21)
EPA Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
(215) 814-5442

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