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SILVAN B. LUTKEWITTE III
JOHN F. MIZNER, ESQ.
KIM KAUFMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LESLIE A. LEWIS JOHNSON, CHIEF COUNSEL



PHONE: (717) 783-5417
FAX: (717) 783-2664
irc@irc.state.pa.us
<http://www.irc.state.pa.us>

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

333 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR, HARRISBURG, PA 17101

September 17, 2009

Honorable John Hanger, Chairman
Environmental Quality Board
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street, 16th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: Regulation #7-431 (IRRC #2742)
Environmental Quality Board
Oil and Gas Wells

Dear Chairman Hanger:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved the subject regulation today. Our order is enclosed and will be available on our website at www.irc.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,

Arthur Coccodrilli

Chairman

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Enclosure

cc: Honorable Mary Jo White, Majority Chairman, Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
Honorable Raphael J. Musto, Minority Chairman, Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
Honorable Camille George, Majority Chairman, House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
Honorable Scott E. Hutchinson, Minority Chairman, House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held September 17, 2009

Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman

George D. Bedwick, Vice Chairman

S. David Fineman, Esq.

Silvan B. Lutkewitte, III

John F. Mizner, Esq., by Phone

Regulation No. 7-431 (#2742)

Environmental Quality Board

Oil and Gas Wells

On February 4, 2009, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Environmental Quality Board. This rulemaking amends 25 Pa. Code Chapter 78. The proposed regulation was published in the February 14, 2009 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on August 14, 2009.

This regulation establishes application fee schedules for permits to drill oil and gas wells along with related clarification language.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Environmental Quality Board (58 P.S. § 601.201(d)) 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.




Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman