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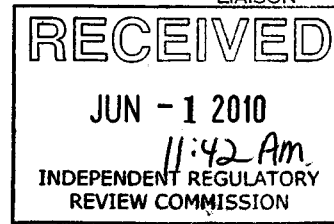
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June 1, 2010

2783.

Kim Kauffman  
 Executive Director  
 Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
 333 Market Street, 14th Floor  
 Harrisburg, PA 17101



Re: <sup>2783</sup> Docket #2763 – Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management

Dear Mr. Kauffman:

I am writing to you in regards to the Environmental Quality Board's proposed revisions to the Chapter 102 regulations, specifically my support for the section that would mandate 150 foot buffers for any new developments along Exceptional Value (EV) and High Quality (HQ) streams.

Buffers have many benefits including the following:

- Reducing pollution in our streams and rivers by filtering pollutants like nitrogen and phosphorus from runoff and improving in-stream pollutant removal;
- Minimizing the erosion of stream banks by holding soil in place;
- Improving habitats for fish by cooling the streams they shade and combating the effects of global warming;
- Minimizing the damage from flooding and reducing the volume of floodwaters;
- Reducing the costs of stormwater management and helping to save communities money on stormwater infrastructure;
- Helping to protect the sources of our drinking water and saving on treatment costs;
- Enhancing the property values in our communities.

We need to require buffers for all new developments in the state in order to protect our streams and our communities. I look forward to working with DEP to ensure that such regulations are adopted and approved in a timely manner. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rep. Kate M. Harper, Esq.  
 61<sup>st</sup> Legislative District

Cc: John Hoekstra, Green Valleys Association