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From: Sent: Mundy, Phyllis [PMundy@pahouse.net]

Monday, June 07, 2010 1:57 PM

To:

IRRC

Cc:

'bwendelgass@cleanwater.org'

Subject:

Docket #2783, the Chapter 102 Regulations

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

June 7, 2010

Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman IRRC irrc@irrc.state.pa.us

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli:

I respectfully request that the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) approve the Department of Environmental Protection's proposed changes to its Chapter 102 regulations (Docket #2783). While I support the many positive changes contained in the proposal, I would particularly like to voice my support for the provision requiring a minimum of 150 feet for riparian buffers on Exceptional Value and High Quality streams.

For three years now, I have met and corresponded with DEP officials and the Luzerne Conservation District to collaborate on funding opportunities to repair flood damage in my legislative district and to prevent more destruction from reoccurring. It is my belief that much of the damage that has occurred from flooding could have been prevented by having implemented better safeguards such as more effective stream buffers.

Stronger standards for riparian stream buffers would reduce pollution of our streams, limit erosion of stream banks, improve habitat for fish and keep streams cooler. They would also increase property values for nearby properties and cut stormwater management costs and drinking water treatment costs. And they would reduce damage from flooding, which costs taxpayers millions of dollars every year.

I ask IRRC to keep these thoughts close in mind as it deliberates the future of Pennsylvania's streams and those who reside near them. Please implement safer standards for stream buffers in Pennsylvania.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this matter. Should you have any related questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or my research analyst, Gretchen Dlugolecki, at (717)772-2361.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Mundy State Representative 120th Legislative District

Cc: Bob Wendelgass, bwendelgass@cleanwater.org