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**Chambers, Laura M.**

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**From:** Sellers, Arianne [ASellers@pahouse.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 24, 2009 11:34 AM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Cc:** Wuenschel, Rosemary J.  
**Subject:** Forested Buffers Support Letter- Rep. Santarsiero

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Hello,

Please find attached to this email the letter of support for the forested buffers (Buffers 100) campaign from State Representative Steve Santarsiero. Also, a hard copy of this letter has been mailed to the Environmental Quality Board.

Feel free to contact me with any further questions you may have.

Thanks,

*Arianne Sellers*  
Legislative Assistant to  
Representative Steve Santarsiero  
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STEVE SANTARSIERO, MEMBER  
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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
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Environmental Quality Board  
P.O. Box 8477  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

RE: Proposed Rulemaking on 25 PA. CODE CH. 102: Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly urge the DEP to adopt a mandatory stream buffers program, and uphold the current technical review of all stormwater plans in the state of Pennsylvania. Pollution and runoff caused significant damage to the streams in our state and without quality initiatives like buffers programs we could risk increased flooding and costly water treatments in our communities.

As a state legislator and earlier as a township official, I have always been a strong supporter of proper stormwater control in Bucks County. Such measures are crucial to the health of our water supply and the protection of natural resources. As a supervisor in Lower Makefield Township, I worked to enact a Low Impact Development (LID) ordinance which has become a national model for establishing firm guidelines for new construction projects to include natural drainage systems and open space buffers, and to minimize earth disturbances.

The current DEP requirements for forested buffers on exceptional value streams are indeed beneficial to the state of Pennsylvania. However, I encourage an expansion of these buffers to at least 100 feet on both sides of every stream, 150 feet on small headwater streams and 300 feet on "Exceptional Value" and "High Quality" streams. By maintaining the integrity of our stream water through the use of proper buffers, we will not only see benefits in the health of our aquatic environments but also within our own communities as flooding damage will be minimal and drinking water quality will be maintained for our residents. This saves our local governments billions of dollars each year in drinking water treatment costs, while also increasing property values.