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Environmental Advisory Council RECEIVED
Nockamixon Township
Bucks County

OCT 20 2009

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Ferndale PA 18921
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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

October 18, 2009

Environmental Quality Board
P.O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

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2009 OCT 26 PM 4:23
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Subject: **Comments on Amending 25 Pa. Code Chapter 102**

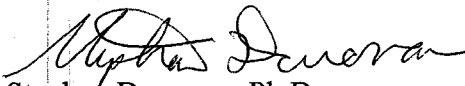
Dear Environmental Quality Board:

We wish to inform you that we wholeheartedly support your efforts to amend 25 Pa. Code Chapter 102 regarding improving the riparian buffer requirements. We well understand the importance of riparian buffers and are spending a great deal of our effort educating the township residents regarding the value of adequate riparian buffers.

In particular, we are expressing support for this proposed law setting the riparian buffer at 150 feet for **Exceptional Value (EV)** streams. In addition, we recommend that you extend this protection to **High Quality (HQ)** streams and consider giving this enhanced protection to all steams that have **Special Protection** designations as well as all streams that feed into rivers that are part of the **National Wild and Scenic River System**. In fact, we would support this protection for all streams in Pennsylvania.

As you may know, this improved protection for riparian buffers is not unprecedented. New Jersey has set the riparian buffer at 300 feet for all **Category One (C1)** waters and 150 feet for all other streams that contain trout, threatened or endangered species (State of New Jersey or Federal Listing) or any segment of a surface water body flowing through a New Jersey State Park or an area that contains acid producing soils.

Thank you for all your work and consideration in this matter,


Stephen Donovan, Ph.D.
Vice-Chair of the Nockamixon EAC