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**Chambers, Laura M.**

**From:** FrancesEH@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2009 9:24 AM  
**To:** EP, RegComments; amisak@cleanwater.org  
**Subject:** No Subject

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

**TO:** [RegComments@state.pa.us](mailto:RegComments@state.pa.us)  
**FROM:** Frances Harkins, 3700 Venango Ave., Munhall, PA. 15120  
**DATE:** 11/23/09  
**RE:** 100' stream buffer + expedited permits

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

I write to support the amendment of the Erosion and Sediment Control (Chapter 102) state regulations to include a 100 foot buffer regulation for Pennsylvania's streams. We are 2d in the nation in miles of waterways with only Alaska having more. But our state's lax regulations permit and actually actively promote pollution of both air and water. Recently, miles of a stream, Dunkard's Creek, went biologically dead; this is but a recent example of pollution. Last summer, I decided to purchase bottled water for all drinking and cooking purposes because I do not trust our drinking water coming from the Mon. R. With totally unregulated Marcellus shale drilling operations which pollute Washington Co., Greene Co. and Allegheny Co. feeder streams emptying into the Mon. with fracking chemicals, I now have no trust in water quality. In every way including a 100 foot buffer rule, we should take proactive steps to protect our waterways and our drinking water. Stormwater runoff is a massive problem in Southwestern PA. as well as Marcellus Shale pollution; these threats are real and demand regulatory attention. Citizens should not distrust the water from their tap. It is the duty of our elected officials to craft strong regulations to ensure the quality of our waterways, and thus our sources of drinking water. When people distrust the water quality in an area, they certainly will not wish to purchase homes in that area.

Similarly, the DEP's proposed changes to Chapter 102 allowing developers to receive expedited permits with no technical review of their E&S & stormwater management plans and to allow no public comment opportunity is a damnable proposal. In a democracy citizens should have their say. For the DEP to acquiesce as a tool of wealthy developers, and to force their voting constituents into silence, is a sell-out of democracy. Shame on the DEP for such despicable attempts to undermine the Clean Water Act and destroy their own regulatory ability. What happened on Wall Street is happening to the environment in PA. with such regulatory avoidance.

Frances Harkins

11/23/2009

Cc Anne Misack, [amisak@cleanwater.org](mailto:amisak@cleanwater.org)