228 Strawbridge Avenue Haddon Township Camden County New Jersey 08108-1809 November 20, 2009

2009 OEC -3 AN 10: 55

RECEIVED

NOV 2 4 2009

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD** 

PA DEP Environmental Quality Board PO Box 8477 Harrisburg PA 17105-8477

RE: **Mandatory Streamside Buffers** 

Gentlemen/Mesdames:

While other states, including my home state of New Jersey, have recognized the need, and taken measures, to protect vegetated green corridors along our streams and rivers, Pennsylvania seems to be dragging its feet.

This letter is to implore you to please support STRONG mandatory buffer protections along your streams and rivers of at LEAST 100 feet as a minimum.

We all are aware, and if we are not, we certainly should be, that stormwater runoff from construction and new development is one of the largest sources of pollution to Pennsylvania rivers and streams affecting approximately 3,600 miles of your streams and rivers, including waters in my home state of New Jersey; i.e., Cooper River. You are NOT doing enough to address the issue and certainly not by giving certain concessions to developers that could harm all of the work that we are doing to prevent what has been done in the past to destroy these waters.

I live a couple of blocks from Cooper River which is directly affected and effected by the waters of the Delaware River among other waterways. I am also a member of the Delaware Riverkeepers and as such, I am very aware of how fragile these waters are. They need to be watched and taken care of by us all. The Riverkeeper Network has done a great deal for our waters as has the various Watershed organizations. They improved the waters of Cooper River so much that they are comfortably able now to use these waters for boating and other events. A few years ago, this was not possible.

There was a time when I could swim in the Delaware. I would not do that today. Help us, help the waters, please. It is desperately needed as is your support for the Mandatory Streamside Buffers of a Minimum of 100 Feet. Thank you.

Shirlee J. Cox

The Delaware Riverkeepers

cc: