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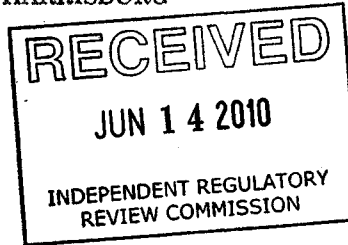
2 SCHOLL DRIVE
OLEY, PENNSYLVANIA 19547
(610) 987-0980
FAX: (610) 987-0798
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

53 WARWICK STREET
BOYERTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 19512
(610) 369-3010
FAX: (610) 369-3011
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
8 A.M. - 4 P.M.

BIRDSBORO BOROUGH BUILDING
202 EAST MAIN STREET
BIRDSBORO, PENNSYLVANIA 19508
THURSDAY 9 A.M. - NOON



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG



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110 WEST ARCH STREET
FLEETWOOD, PENNSYLVANIA 19522
WEDNESDAY 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

June 14, 2010

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, Pa. 17120

Re: Chapter 95, Wastewater
IRRRC Docket No. 2806
EQB 7-446

Dear Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I am writing in support of the Environmental Quality Board's proposed discharge standards for natural gas drillers of 500 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for total dissolved solids (TDS) and 250 mg/L each for sulfates and chlorides. I believe these standards will go a long way towards ensuring that federal drinking waters standards are met across the state for TDS.

The Department of Environmental Protection engaged in a thorough and inclusive stakeholder process to arrive at these standards. The Department should be commended for its careful consideration of all the interests involved, including the potential commercial opportunities that are presented by confirmed reserves of natural gas. However, we should be mindful that updated regulations are necessary now that the Commonwealth is facing the growth of a large and entirely new extraction industry.

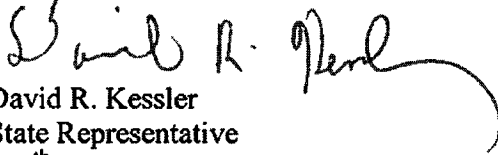
Hydrofracking has never before been conducted in our state on such a scale and with such large volumes of water. Many other states that host hydrofracking do not permit any discharge of wastewater from the process. Pennsylvania is a water rich state, but it does not have the sort of geology that makes large scale deep-well injection an option. Therefore, it is critical that we implement a strong discharge standard for wastewater that will minimize its introduction to our water supply.

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Please approve the proposed regulations when this matter comes before the Commission.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David R. Kessler", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

David R. Kessler
State Representative
130th Legislative District