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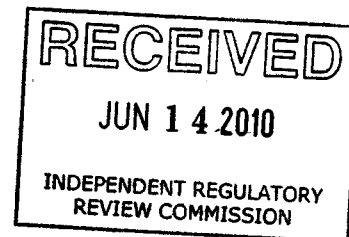
House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

June 14, 2010

Mr. Kim Kaufman  
333 Market Street, 14th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101



Dear Mr. Kaufman,

I am writing in support of a discharge standard 500 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and 250 mg/L each for Sulfates and Chlorides for natural gas drillers. These standards will help to ensure that federal drinking water standards are met across the state for TDS. I would also like to applaud DEP for setting a reasonable ceiling for TDS for existing industries with discharge permits.

DEP engaged in a thorough and well rounded stakeholder process to arrive at these standards. I am pleased that the Department is being conscientious with our state's interests, but I also recognize that we are overdue to update regulations in the face of a large and entirely new industry here. Hydrofracking has never been conducted on such a scale and with such volumes of water in our state before.

I acknowledge that many other states that host hydrofracking do not permit discharge of wastewater in their states. However, Pennsylvania is a water rich state and 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, so that wastewater that does make it into our water supply.

I urge IRRC to approve these rules, so that they may be promulgated quickly and begin protecting the people of Pennsylvania, as well as the aquatic life that so many of them enjoy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barbara McIlvaine Smith".

Barbara McIlvaine Smith  
State Representative  
156<sup>th</sup> District

BMS:cds