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Kate St. John
731 McCaslin Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
December 31, 2009

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Comments on Proposed Rulemaking, 25 Pa.Code Chapter 95, Wastewater Treatment Requirements, 39 Pa.B. 6467

To the EQB:

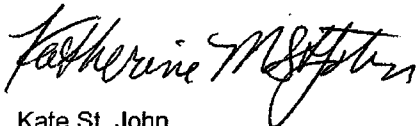
Please strengthen Pennsylvania's wastewater treatment requirements, per DEP's proposal. Especially strengthen the regulations regarding total dissolved solids (TDS) and Marcellus shale drilling frackwater.

Pennsylvania is experiencing more mining and drilling than ever but our laws do not yet adequately protect our waters. There was a huge fish kill at Dunkard Creek in Greene County in September. The smoking gun was a high level of TDS (salts) which allowed golden algae to bloom. We can't let this happen because of our lax regulations.

- Please protect Pennsylvanians' water by NOT weakening DEP's proposed discharge standards for TDS.
- Please enact DEP's proposal as soon as possible. Drilling and mining operations are discharging into our waterways every day and in increasing volume.
- Apply these new standards to wastewater treatment plants as well as other discharges. Don't exempt wastewater treatment plants. Nearly everyone lives downstream from one.
- Add discharge standards for Marcellus shale frackwater. The huge drilling boom is increasing the amount of bad water in Pennsylvania.
- DEP should track wastewater from drill operations with a clear "Record of Responsibility." Otherwise the drillers will send the water to wastewater plants who will be responsible for water they cannot treat effectively.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,



Kate St. John

412-622-6558 (daytime)