

From: Montross, Paola [Paola.Montross@va.gov]
 Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2010 9:12 AM
 To: EP, RegComments
 Subject: SUPPORT for DEP's Chapter 95 proposed revisions

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Allowing drillers to dump their wastewater with little treatment, and sometimes with none at all will affect the health of my children and myself. Drilling sites have increased in our area and I have GREAT concern, however, the DEP's proposed new standards for Marcellus wastewater to finally require real wastewater treatment prior to any discharges into our drinking water supply would ease my mind.

Clean Water Action suggests these key points on DEP's proposed changes to Chapter 95, Wastewater Treatment Requirements

1. We need safe drinking water! DEP's proposal of 500 mg/L for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and 250 mg/L each for Sulfates and Chlorides will go a long way towards ensuring that our drinking water supplies will not have unsafe levels of TDS and these other contaminants. DEP should not weaken their proposed discharge standard for TDS.
2. We need these regulations to be in place as soon as possible to protect our rivers and drinking water. DEP should stop giving out more drilling permits until wastewater rules are in place. DEP should also stop allowing existing or proposed wastewater plants to pollute our rivers unless they follow these new rules.
3. DEP should add discharge standards for those contaminants that are frequently found in Marcellus Shale gas drilling wastewater. These would include bromides, arsenic, benzene, radium, magnesium, and possibly others. Many of these contaminants are toxic to humans and very difficult for drinking water systems to remove.
4. DEP needs to ensure that all aspects of the generation of Marcellus wastewater are regulated. Currently there are no requirements to track wastewater from drilling sites to treatment plants, and there is no oversight over the reuse of Marcellus wastewater.

Please make these proposed revisions a priority to approve. We SHOULD be able to drink our water knowing its safe, I shouldn't have to spend money on buying bottled water for my children as I'm unsure how safe my water really is.

Thank You.

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