

From: Stephanie Perles [sjperles@yahoo.com]
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To: EP, RegComments
Subject: comments on Proposed Chapter 95 regulations

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Environmental Quality Board,

I would like to submit my comments about DEP's Proposed Chapter 95 regulations. The Chapter 95 regulations should include:

- The TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) limit of 500 mg/L for TDS and 250 mg/L each for Sulfates and Chlorides is needed to meet Federal drinking water standard. DEP should not weaken the discharge standard for TDS.
- The standard for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) should be stated as a daily maximum, not a monthly average. In addition, there should be a minimum requirement that all discharges not cause background in-stream concentrations of TDS to rise above 133% of background levels (the Delaware River Basin Commission standard).
- Maintain the current definition of large TDS sources and clearly state that the 2,000 mg/L concentration threshold is a daily maximum. That daily maximum should not be allowed to be circumvented by dilution.
- All large TDS sources should be covered by the standard. New sources and new discharges at existing sources should be covered immediately. Existing sources of large TDS discharges should be eventually covered through the NPDES permit renewal process.
- DEP should add discharge standards for bromides, arsenic, benzene, radium, magnesium and Volatile Organic Compounds.
- Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing should be required utilizing both an acute and chronic toxicity standard for both TDS discharges and Marcellus wastewater.

In addition, DEP should stop issuing more drilling permits, which increase existing wastewater loads in Pennsylvania streams, until the Chapter 95 revisions are in place. DEP should also stop allowing existing or proposed wastewater plants to discharge TDS at levels above the standards established in these Chapter 95 revisions.

Finally, DEP needs to ensure that all aspects of the generation of Marcellus wastewater are regulated, including the reuse of Marcellus wastewater, whether it is a waste disposal method or a closed loop water recycling.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Perles
Mechanicsburg, PA