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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

**From:** sellart@earthlink.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2010 5:56 PM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Subject:** toxic wastewater/cancer

**It is unreal that deforestation is on the agenda in this day and age when change is supposed to be the mode - our waters, land and air are about to be contaminated for gas exploration. Do we have to accept the proliferation of cancer causing materials that will enlarge childhood and adult cancers for the profit of big business? We want solar and wind energy - not a Haliburton destructful process of polluting, destroying habitat for creatures and decimation of our beautiful Pennsylvania forests.**

**DEP has not proposed standards** for a number of contaminants that are frequently found in Marcellus wastewater. DEP should add discharge standards for bromides, arsenic, benzene, radium, magnesium and Volatile Organic Compounds. Many of these contaminants are toxic to humans and aquatic life and are very difficult for drinking water systems to remove.

- **Due to the highly varying toxicity** of both TDS discharges and especially Marcellus wastewater, **Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing** should be required utilizing both an acute and chronic toxicity standard.

- **We need these regulations to be in place as soon as possible** to protect aquatic life and drinking water sources. DEP should stop issuing more drilling permits, which increase existing wastewater loads in Pennsylvania streams, until 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. The effective date should not be extended to accommodate the time frame necessary for a new facility to acquire all necessary permits (such as those for air quality).

- **Wastewater Reuse:** DEP needs to ensure that all aspects of the generation of Marcellus wastewater are regulated. Currently there is little oversight over the reuse of Marcellus wastewater and whether in fact this is a waste disposal method as opposed to closed loop water recycling.

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