From:

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Sent:

Friday, January 15, 2010 9:42 PM

To:

EP, RegComments

Subject:

Chapter 95 Water Regulations

JAN 2 5 2010

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

Environmental Quality Board PA Department of Environmental Protection.

To whom it may concern,

The quality of our streams and water supply aquifers are in jeopardy once again, but instead of acid mine drainage we are now faced with potential pollution due to Marcellus shale gas drilling. With thousands of miles of Pennsylvania streams still impaired due to acid mine drainage and in effect the public still paying for remediation, the last thing we need is additional damage to our streams and drinking water supplies.

Residents of Pennsylvania deserve clean streams and safe drinking water sources, and unless the impending changes to Chapter 95 of the drinking water regulations contain additional and more stringent controls over the process of gas drilling the outlook for our streams and drinking water is anything but rosy.

Marcellus shale frackwater *must* have a chain of responsibility of, signed documentation regarding the origin, use, flowback, transportation, treatment, and disposal of any and all frackwater. This should also include *all* fluids, air, and solids that are produced by the fracking process.

Frackwater should not be allowed to be dumped into any of our streams or rivers and there should be a standard for allowable dissolved solids in our water. Current EPA drinking water regulations require a maximum contaminate level (MCL) of 500 mg/L for Total Dissolved Solids and 250 mg/L each for sulfates and chlorides; and these standards should not be lowered in regard to requirements for drillers. The standard for TDS should be stated as a daily average and not a monthly average.

Current proposed changes to Chapter 95 in regard to Marcellus shale drilling do not appear to address any discharge standards for contaminants such as arsenic, benzene, radium, magnesium, and bromides, all of which are contaminants toxic to humans, animals, and aquatic life. In addition to establishing discharge standards for the aforementioned DEP should also place them on Volatile Organic Compounds.

It is imperative to the protection of our streams and drinking water sources for regulations to be put in place with the utmost urgency and speed. Until such time as these regulations *are* in place the DEP should cease issuing of any further gas drilling or waste frackwater discharge permits.

Respectfully,

S. Wesley Waldron 826 Kellyburg Road Trout Run, PA 17771