

2806

**Loyalsock Creek
Watershed Association**



RECEIVED

January 15, 2010

Environmental Quality Board
PO Box 8477
Harrisburg, Pa 17105-8477

JAN 21 2010

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Dear Environmental Quality Board Members,

On behalf of the members of the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association (LCWA), I urge you to pass the proposed rulemaking changes in 25 Code Chapter 95, Wastewater Treatment Requirements, as published in the PA Bulletin November 7, 2009.

We are concerned about the consequences of using the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay as a dumping ground for the salts and other contaminants generated by the gas well industry. For the past 50 years, the LCWA has struggled to reverse the damage caused by the logging industry and the coal industry. The sediment, the metals, and the acid entering the Loyalsock Creek have caused damage to the aquatic ecosystems for hundreds of miles down stream.

Currently, the residents of our watershed are facing financial hardships because we must reduce our contribution of nitrogen and phosphorus to the Chesapeake. Over time, these nutrients have proved to be harmful the aquatic life in the Bay. Waste water from hydrofracking must be highly regulated so we are not forced to pay for yet another costly clean up.

The chemical composition of the frack water to be treated is unknown. The ability of the Susquehanna to dilute frack water so it is no longer toxic is unknown. The ability of aquatic organisms to tolerate the changes in water chemistry caused by dumping processed frack water into the Susquehanna is unknown. The regulations for waste water treatment need to be very restrictive to protect what the President has declared a "National Treasure."

Thank you for your efforts to protect the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Kafer".

Carol Kafer, President
LCWA

P O Box 216
Montoursville, PA 17754