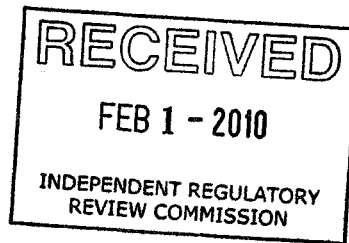


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RECEIVED

JAN 28 2010

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

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Phone: 724-942-6404

January 25, 2010

SUBJECT: Proposed Rulemaking - Wastewater treatment requirements - 25 PA. CODE
CH. 95

To Whom It May Concern:

The Pennsylvania Constitution guarantees citizens of the Commonwealth, like myself, "pure water." This has not been the case over the past 18 months as our Monongahela River tap water, provided by Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC) has become smelly and foul tasting. I am concerned about adverse health effects related to drinking and bathing in this water containing elevated trihalomethanes and bromides. You can see in the attached PAWC water quality report that my Total Trihalomethanes reached an unacceptable peak of **156 ppb** in 2008. Their 2009 report has not yet been released, but will probably reflect similar over limit levels.

Our tap water problems are directly related to the high-TDS issues in the Monongahela River. I feel this problem needs to be remedied with tighter restrictions on TDS levels.

I was also alarmed three months ago when lab test results on my tap water indicated the presence of Acrylonitrile at a level of **.594ppb**. This result indicates to me that the dumping of untreated gas drilling brine is adding chemical contamination to our Pittsburgh rivers, since this same manmade chemical is appearing in water well tests close to Marcellus gas drilling sites. (My water test results are attached)

I would strongly recommend that Pennsylvania rulemakers **reduce the permitted levels** of TDS in the Monongahela River and other Pennsylvania waterways. It would also be advisable to **reduce the massive water withdrawals by gas drilling companies**, since lower water flows also aggravate TDS problems.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Donnan", written over a horizontal line.

Robert M. Donnan

2008 PAWC WATER QUALITY REPORT

Other Compounds (Measured in the Distribution System)								
Substance (units)	Violations Y/N	Year Sampled	MCLG	MCL	Range	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source	
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	N	2003	5	0	1.4	SS ⁷	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Strontium-90 (pCi/L)	N	2003	8	0	0.8	SS ⁷	Yes	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Tritium (pCi/L)	N	2003	20,000	0	500	SS ⁷	Yes	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) ²	N	2008	90	NA	74 ³	34 - 156 ⁴	Yes	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb) ²	N	2008	60	NA	14 ³	2 - 51	Yes	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Free Chlorine Residual (ppm) ³	N	2008	NA	4	1.1 ³	0.7 - 1.1	Yes	Added as a disinfectant to the treatment process

¹ Range represents sampling at individual sample points.
² MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) applies.
³ Highest annual running average for individual sample points.
⁴ Highest monthly average for individual sample points.
⁵ Non-compliance sample site.
⁶ SS - Only single sample required.

How to Read This Table

Starting with a **Substance**, read across. **Year Sampled** is usually in 2008 or year prior. **MCL** shows the highest level of substance (contaminant) allowed. **MCLG** is the goal level for that substance (goal may be set lower than what is allowed). **Amount Detected** represents the measured amount (less is better). **Range** tells the highest and lowest amounts measured. A **Yes** under **Compliance Achieved** means the amount of the substance met government requirements. **Typical Source** tells where the substance usually originates.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Report

- **AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.
- **NA:** Not applicable
- **NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of the water.

- **pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration of radioactive contaminants in water (also beta particles).
- **mrem/yr (Millirems Per Year):** A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
- **ppm or mg/L (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter.
- **ppb or µg/L (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter.
- **SS:** Single sample
- **TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **%:** means percent
- **>:** means greater than
- **<:** means less than

Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. If the organism was detected, current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks.

Based on the results of our Cryptosporidium monitoring, no additional treatment will be required by the new US EPA regulation.

Volatile Organics Summary

Sample Name Donnan 7
Misc Info
Analysis Date & Time 12/3/2009 12:50
Operator
Data File Name E120209-25.D

Results reported in ug/L (ppb)

Compound	Amount
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	< 0.5
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	< 0.5
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	< 0.5
1,1-Dichloroethane	< 0.5
1,1-Dichloroethene	< 0.5
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	< 0.5
1,2-Dichloroethane	< 0.5
1,2-Dichloropropane	< 0.5
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	< 0.5
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	< 0.5
2-Chloroethylvinyl Ether	< 0.5
Acrylonitrile	0.594
Benzene	< 0.5
Bromodichloromethane	19.7
Bromoform	0.5
Bromomethane	< 0.5
Carbon Tetrachloride	< 0.5
Chlorobenzene	< 0.5
Chloroethane	< 0.5
Chloroform	42.2
Chloromethane	< 0.5
cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	< 0.5
Dibromochloromethane	7.60
Ethylbenzene	< 0.5
Hexane	< 0.5
m,p-Xylenes	< 0.5
Methylene Chloride	< 0.5
o-Xylene	< 0.5
Styrene	< 0.5
Tetrachloroethene	< 0.5
Toluene	< 0.5
trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	< 0.5
trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	< 0.5
Trichloroethene	< 0.5
Trichlorofluoromethane	< 0.5
Vinyl Chloride	< 0.5

Surrogate Recoveries	% Recovery
Dibromofluoromethane	105.6
1,4-Difluorobenzene	97.2
Toluene-d8	91.5
4-Bromofluorobenzene	90.9