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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

From: Anne and George Vivino-Hintze [ganda@epix.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2010 9:47 AM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Comments Re: 25 PA. CODE CH. 95-Wastewater Treatment Requirements

Comments Re: 25 PA. CODE CH. 95-Wastewater Treatment Requirements

We are landowners in Bradford County, PA. We have leased our gas rights and fully expect to benefit financially from the development of the Marcellus Shale natural gas resources.

But our land is more than the lid for a gas well. We also live beside a creek and a wetland which have provided us years of pleasure and which we share with innumerable other species. We draw our household water from a well. These clean water resources and habitats must be protected as we develop the Marcellus Shale.

We need strong regulations to be in place as soon as possible to protect our creeks, rivers, wetlands, and drinking water.

DEP should not weaken their proposed discharge standard for TDS. We would be happier if this discharge standard and those for other contaminants were more stringent.

DEP should add discharge standards for those contaminants that are frequently found in Marcellus Shale gas drilling wastewater. These would include bromides, arsenic, benzene, radium, magnesium, and possibly others. Many of these contaminants are toxic to humans and very difficult for drinking water systems to remove.

DEP needs to ensure that all aspects of the generation of Marcellus wastewater are regulated. Currently there are no requirements to track wastewater from drilling sites to treatment plants, and there is no oversight over the reuse of Marcellus wastewater. These omissions must also be addressed with DEP regulations.

Thank you,
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