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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

From: Norman Baglini [sidbaglini@comcast.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2010 8:50 AM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Comments Re: 25 PA. CODE CH. 95-Wastewater Treatment Requirements

Dear Environmental Quality Board,

A week ago, I attended a forum sponsored by Congressman Vitali at Delaware County Community College regarding the Marcellus Shale Drilling issues. Both corporate and environmental speakers were given time to present their case. Based on the information I received at that two hour meeting and as a Pennsylvania resident, I would like to make the following comments on the new proposed wastewater rules (Chapter 95):

We need safe drinking water! DEP's proposal of 500 mg/L for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and 250 mg/L each for Sulfates and Chlorides will go a long way towards ensuring that our drinking water supplies will not have unsafe levels of TDS and these other contaminants. DEP should not weaken their proposed discharge standard for TDS.

We need these regulations to be in place as soon as possible to protect our rivers and drinking water. DEP should stop giving out more drilling permits until wastewater rules are in place. DEP should also stop allowing existing or proposed wastewater plants to pollute our rivers unless they follow these new rules.

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.

Sincerely,

Norman Baglini
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