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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY FEVEN CONTRISION

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Environmental Quality Board Rachel Carson State Office Building P.O. Box 8477 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

RE: 25 PA. CODE CH. 95 Wastewater Treatment Requirements [39 Pa.B. 6467]

Dear Members of the Board:

I am writing to convey my opposition to the aforementioned proposed rulemaking relating to wastewater treatment requirements. My position is based on the arguments advanced by F.O.R.C.E. in its comments to the Board and I wholeheartedly endorse those comments.

The proposed standards are not based on sound science; are costly, burdensome, unworkable and therefore, threaten the vitality of the coal mining industry. At a time of economic turmoil throughout Pennsylvania and the country, the coal mining industry provides for high-paying, relatively stable jobs and provides the most cost-effective source of electricity now available. Placing obstacles such as this proposed rulemaking in the path of an already highly-regulated industry does nothing to achieve one of Governor Rendell's top economic priorities of retaining the jobs we have.

For these reasons, I ask that the EQB reject the proposed rulemaking.

Sincerely J. D. Shearer