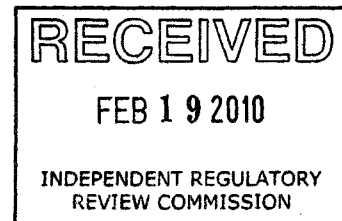


Paul Rito
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2806



Dear Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board,

Wow! It's the 40s, 50s & 60s all over again. Then it was strip and deep mines doing what they wished without regard to the environmental impacts. Now it's gas drillers. And once again, making money for a select few seems to be taking precedence over the safety and well-being of the general populace, and threatens not only our health but our tourist industry, too.

As the Department of Environmental Protection considers new wastewater regulations, I urge you to include the following points:

- * Set health-based standards for contaminants including arsenic, benzene, radium and magnesium that may be found in gas drilling wastewater.
- * Approve and implement these standards as soon as possible in order to protect public health and our environment.
- * Stop all new gas drilling operations until these new health-based standards are set and require all sewage treatment plants to follow these proposed standards immediately.
- * Require drilling companies to track and report all of their pollution from drilling sites to treatment plants, and establish regulations to oversee the reuse of gas drilling wastewater.

The public has a right to know about pollution being released into our environment or shipped into our communities.

Sincerely,