



**From:** Virginia Thompson [grepa430@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2010 4:10 PM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Subject:** Chapter 95 Wastewater Treatment Requirements

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing regarding the wastewater treatment requirements for Marcellus Shale toxic waste. The potential for real environmental damage and harm to human health by drilling for Marcellus Shale is huge and irreversible. I urge PA DEP to protect drinking water quality and aquatic life.

DEP must require real wastewater treatment prior to any discharges into our drinking water supply. At least 85 known hazardous substances, including carcinogens, mutagens, neurotoxins, pesticides, and endocrine disruptors, are present in Marcellus Shale flowback fluids. Every one of these is a contaminant of concern. The appropriate level for all of these substances in our water is zero.

I urge DEP to require the following: (1) the total dissolved solids (TDS) standards be strengthened, not weakened; (2) measures be applied daily, not monthly; (3) volatile organic chemicals be monitored; (4) arsenic, lead, and radium be removed from waste prior to discharge (and that effluent be tested for these contaminants); and (5) "recycling" of Marcellus Shale flowback waste be monitored and regulated.

DEP should stop issuing any permits for water withdrawals, drilling, or waste treatment for Marcellus Shale drilling until these standards are in place and in effect. DEP should also stop allowing existing or proposed wastewater plants to discharge TDS at levels above these new standards. The effective date should not be extended for any reason. Our water quality, air quality, and public health are not for sale.

DEP must institute a clear monitoring system for Marcellus Shale wastewater. The public must be able to find out, with a transparent paper trail: how much waste is being generated at each site; how that waste is being stored, and by what means it is stored; how much waste is being transported, when and to where; what methods are being used to treat it; what chemicals are released into the air during storage, transfer, and treatment; whether Marcellus Shale waste is being used for brine or for road salt, or any kind of road treatment, and if so, quantity, date, and amount; how much toxic waste is left underground at each fracked gas well; what happens to radioactive waste; whether contaminated sludge is applied to fields or buried in the ground; whether Marcellus Shale waste is being taken out of state and if so, how much and where it is being taken, and its means of disposal.

I urge PA DEP to be absolutely protective of the environment and public health by regulating the companies getting rich from Marcellus Shale so that toxic chemicals are not pumped back into the aquifer.

Sincerely,  
Virginia Thompson  
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