

**From:** Beth & Chris Firme [bncfirme@innernet.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2009 9:16 AM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Cc:** FORESTcoalition@aol.com  
**Subject:** marcellus shale requirements

#2800

As citizen of Pennsylvania these companies need to follow the most strict guidelines. Let's not pollute our waters. As a wildlife/fisheries biologist, please do not let these companies get off by doing the least. It is better to protect now than later. If the least protection is allowed, then we reap the benefits of polluted water and these companies get off scot free. PA DEP is to make sure our water is safe not just for human consumption but for all inhabitants that rely on water for survival. Do not allow these companies special exception.

Please review the following:

1. **We need safe drinking water!** DEP's proposal will go a long way towards ensuring that our drinking water supplies will not have unsafe levels of total dissolved solids (TDS). DEP should not weaken their proposed discharge standard for TDS.
2. **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.
3. **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 very difficult for drinking water systems to remove.
4. **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. There should be a "Record of Responsibility", a paper trail of the quantity of frackwater being transported and signed receipts for each delivery. In addition, there should be strict oversight over the reuse of Marcellus wastewater.

Sincerely,  
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