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Kathy Cooper

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 3:48 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; apankake@pasen.gov
Cc: c-jflanaga@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards

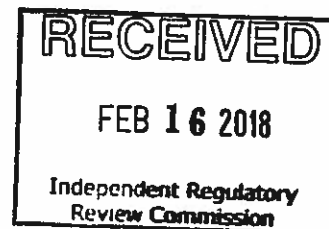


Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards.

Commenter Information:

Susan Babbitt
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Comments entered:

Dear PADEP Environmental Quality Board,

The Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection (PADEP) must set strong numeric water quality standards as part of your triennial review process to better protect the tributaries and water that flows through the Delaware River Basin and the greater Commonwealth. Please consider the following comments.

- PADEP should consider private conservation easements in your review of stream upgrade petitions.
- The federally endangered Atlantic sturgeon and other reproducing fish in the tidal Delaware River (Zones 3,4, and 5) deserve stronger elevated dissolved oxygen standards and immediate listing of these zones as fish propagation is needed.
- I do not believe the PADEP can remove the water contact/swimming existing use from the Delaware River from RM 108.4 to 81.8.
- It's good to propose adding 11 new toxics to its list but Delaware Riverkeeper Network is concerned that DEP is not proposing to adopt PFA standards (Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances) to protect drinking water.
- A criterion for chloride to protect Pennsylvania streams from impacts like brine gas drilling wastewater and road salt applications in the winter is a missing critical standard by the state that is overdue and needed.

- Pennsylvania's streams continue to suffer from nutrient pollution, both Nitrogen and Phosphorus, and the failure of PADEP to more rapidly adopt numeric nutrient criteria for aquatic life use exacerbates the damage that these streams suffer.

- From the stream listings tables, it would appear that the Dept. is proposing to downgrade Goose Creek in the Delaware River Basin from TSF (trout stock fishery) to WWF (warmwater fishery). More information and analysis is warranted to the public on how this decision is justified.

- Bacteria standards should be made to be consistent throughout the year and DEP should consider adopting EPA's recommended standards.

As a resident of the Delaware River watershed who values clean streams and healthy drinking water, I appreciate the PADEP considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Susan Babbitt

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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