## **Kathy Cooper**

From:

ecomment@pa.gov

Sent:

Wednesday, May 1, 2019 9:57 AM

To:

Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; eregop@pahousegop.com;

environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov

Cc:

c-jflanaga@pa.gov

Subject:

Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards - Class A Stream

Independent Regulatory
Review Commission

Redesignations (#7-548)



The enclosed comment was received as part of the following testimony:

Testimony name: Public Hearing - Class A Stream Redesignations

**Testimony date:** 4/26/2019 12:00:00 AM

Testimony location: Harrisburg, PA

Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards - Class A Stream Redesignations (#7-548).

Commenter Information:

Richard Slade (airtango@verizon.net) 304 North Third Street Halifax, PA 17032 US

Comments entered:

No text comments were provided as part of this comment submittal. Please refer to attachments below.

These links provide access to the attachments provided as part of this comment.

Comments Attachment: 7-548 Testimony April 26 Richard Slade.pdf

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely, Jessica Shirley

Jessica Shirley
Director, Office of Policy

April 26, 2019

3226

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MAY -1 2019

Independent Regulatory Review Commission

Department of Environmental Protection Southcentral Regional Office Susquehanna Room A 909 Elmerton Ave. Harrisburg, PA 17110

Oral Testimony on [25 PA. CODE CH. 93] Water Quality Standards; Class A Stream Redesignations 49 Pa. Bull. 1367, March 23, 2019

Hello. My name is Richard Slade and I live in Halifax, PA.

I'm here, today, to voice my strong support for the Environmental Quality Board to reclassify 46 streams to High Quality (HQ). These streams deserve the regulatory protections provided by the HQ status because the PA Fish and Boat Commission's analysis of the species-specific biomass standards qualify these streams for Class A Wild Trout streams which provides data showing the streams support the aquatic life qualifier for HQ designation.

Tourism and outdoor recreation are also significant components of Pennsylvania's economic well-being. From the exceptional wild trout fisheries in the Poconos to the scenic national water trail of the Susquehanna River in the Endless Mountains, to biking and hiking in western PA's Laurel Highlands, outdoor recreation calls to visitors and residents of Pennsylvania, which in turn stimulates the state's economy.

Pennsylvania is home to more than 86,000 miles of streams. And for decades, Pennsylvania's many clean streams and pristine forested landscapes have attracted people of all walks of life. Protecting these natural resources by providing High Quality designation protections for these 46 streams is key to ensuring that our state treasures are available for generations to come.

Our state constitution ensures that every Pennsylvanian has the right to clean water. By protecting these streams through High Quality designation, the EQB takes a step towards making sure clean water is a reality for all. High Quality designation for these 46 streams will benefit the Commonwealth and its citizens by promoting the health of its surface waters, wildlife habitats, and economic benefits.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to speak in support of this proposal.

Richard Slade 304 North Third Street Halifax, PA. 17032