Kathy Cooper

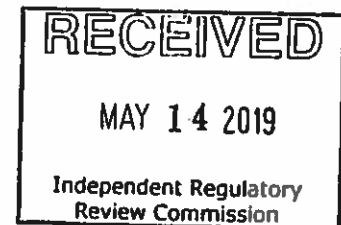|	
From:	ecomment@pa.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, May 14, 2019 12:30 PM
To:	Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov
Cc:	c-jflanaga@pa.gov
Subject:	Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: WQM and NPDES Permit Application Fees and Annual Fees (#7-533)(correction to Table in § 91.22(a) published April 6, 2019; 49 Pa.B. 1665)

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: WQM and NPDES Permit Application Fees and Annual Fees (#7-533)(correction to Table in § 91.22(a) published April 6, 2019; 49 Pa.B. 1665).

Commenter Information:

Alfred Wanner
Wanner's Pride-N-Joy Farm LLC (wannerpjf@frontiernet.net)
5800 Wanner Road
Narvon, PA 17555 US

Comments entered:

To whom it may concern;
I am writing to express my concern about the proposed increases in fees to be charged by DEP for permitting. We are a CAFO starting on a voluntary basis and continuing as our dairy herd grew to mandated size. Our goal has always been to be good stewarts of our land and animals. We have worked with NRCS, the Lancaster County Conservation service and Team-Ag engineering firm to adopt good environmental practices on our farm. The large increase in fees will place an economic burden on those of us who have already invested in accepted practices. We in agriculture do not see 100% percent increases in our income or have automatic increases when labor rates increase. The new fee schedule seems like a punishment to those farmers who are trying to do the right thing for the environment.
As Pennsylvania works to meet the goals for cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay perhaps you might want to forgive fees for farmers who are investing in conservation measures or even offer payment for conservation practices paid for by the farmer.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Alfred Wanner

No attachments were included as part of this comment.