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Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com
Cc: c-jflanaga@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards for Manganese and Implementation (#7-553)

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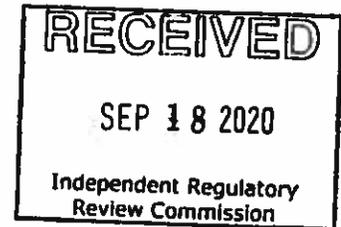


Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards for Manganese and Implementation (#7-553).

Commenter Information:

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Comments entered:

After going through both policy alternatives it is my strong opinion that the second alternative would be in the better interest of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a whole. Manganese was evaluated as a toxic substance for human health that should be moved table 5. If the Board recognizes it should be in table 5, they should treat it as the other substances in table 5 are treated. Manganese is a neurotoxin for humans and toxic to aquatic ecosystems. The surface water in Pennsylvania needs to be valued holistically, not just for it's potable water supply. A study done in 2019 found that a general trend for aquatic ecosystems, specifically lakes and rivers, is that the parts of these ecosystems we use most for goods/services, are the most at risk for being negatively impacted by human activities [1]. The same study also concluded that protecting these areas alone was not enough to protect all the areas at high risk [1]. The only way to use natural resources sustainably is by protecting the whole resource. It is irresponsible to make a decision based on what the cheaper option is knowing that that decision will not be of long term benefit. That is what alternative one and its supporters are asking the Board to do. Alternative one benefits to those who contribute to manganese pollution. Alternative two benefits public health and the environment. When deciding which alternative to implement, remember that it is the duty of the Board to protect human health and natural lands. The task of balancing public interest with environmental stewardship can be achieved in this by

implementing the second alternative.

1 Culhane, F., Teixeira, H., Nogueira, A.J., Borgwardt, F., Trauner, D., Lillebø, A., Piet, G., Kuemmerlen, M., McDonald, H., O'higgins, T. and Barbosa, A.L., 2019. Risk to the supply of ecosystem services across aquatic ecosystems. *Science of the Total Environment*, 660, pp.611-621.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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