

Stephen Hoffman



From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 4:15 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net;
regcomments@pa.gov; Troutman, Nick; timothy.collins@pasenate.com;
gking@pahousegop.com; Iversen, Sarah A.
Cc: c-jflanagan@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556)

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Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556).

Commenter Information:

Marie Carota
 (madpie@verizon.net)
 1255 Pebble Hill Rd
 Doylestown, PA 18901 US

Comments entered:

Dear PA Environmental Quality Board,

I urge the Department of Environmental Protection to fully consider its mission to public health and the environment before finalizing its proposed revisions to Chapter 105, governing dams, water obstructions, and encroachments into aquatic resources.

The Department should reconsider its proposal to require a company seeking a permit for an industry activity that crosses multiple counties – like a pipeline – to submit only one application, rather than needing to go to each county the activity touches. This will make it harder for the counties and their residents to learn about proposed industrial activities that might affect their waters and therefore make it harder for citizens to participate and have a voice in the process.

Second, the Department should also be revising these regulations to protect our wetlands and waterways and make it harder for industry to negatively impact them. Instead, the Department is making it easier for industry to get permits or evade the permitting process altogether by expanding the number of activities eligible for a waiver out of the permitting process. Because some Pennsylvania bodies of water are so important or threatened, there should be no waivers allowed for activities in these waterways, no matter how small the stream size. The Department

should reduce, not expand, the number of waivers granted, and should not allow any waivers for activities impacting EV, HQ, Class A, wild trout, or already impaired streams.

We are dealing with a plan to pave the bike circuit along the neshaminy creek where it floods excessively. This is an example of the issues when planners come in and take over. This is a small problem compared with dirty pipelines. The DEP should be strict on these kinds of disruptions to clean water, natural lands, and wildlife. Everything I read that the state writes on these subjects say clearly that nature, especially trees, should be retained. Also the state is concerned with clean water which is going to be a huge problem soon with the pfas and other forever chemicals. This is what the PADEP was created for. Protecting the environment not rubber stamping development. People are not happy that their homes, neighborhoods and open spaces are being compromised. It is a sad future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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