INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION APPROVAL ORDER

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held March 21, 2024

George D. Bedwick, Chairman John F. Mizner, Esq., Vice Chairman John J. Soroko, Esq. Murray Ufberg, Esq. Dennis A. Watson, Esq.

Regulation No. 106-14 (#3377) Environmental Hearing Board Practice and Procedure

On June 6, 2023, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Environmental Hearing Board (Board). This rulemaking amends 25 Pa. Code Chapter 1021. The proposed regulation was published in the June 17, 2023 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a public comment period ending on July 17, 2023. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on February 15, 2024.

This final regulation amends the rules of practice and procedure of the Board to provide the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) and persons challenging Department actions before the Board with more specific guidance on how to represent their interests. The purpose of the amendments is to make practice before the Board more efficient by reducing paperwork and less costly by avoiding the need for litigation over interpretation of the rules.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Board (35 P.S. §§ 7515(c) and 691.307(b), 27 Pa.C.S. § 7708) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

This regulation is approved.

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