

Cooper, Kathy

2927

**From:** Karen Frock [kfrock@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2012 4:50 PM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Subject:** 25 PA. CODE CH. 105 -EQB Proposed Rulemaking

I am writing in support of increasing fees and continuing to review fee structures to ensure that adequate funding exists to inspect, monitor compliance with regulations for, and to properly review permit applications for dam safety and waterway management.

I live in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, where dam safety concerns and the risks associated with waterway obstructions and flooding are real and substantial.

In considering the Environmental Assessment associated with many of the permit applications described in the PA Bulletin, the Commonwealth must also consider the risk to wildlife on the ground and migratory birds posed by ANY impoundments allowed to contain flowback water from natural gas drilling. As a state in a key location on the great Eastern Flyway by which many of the Western Hemisphere's birds travel twice a year, Pennsylvania has a special responsibility to protect the world's bird resources from coming into contact with poisonous and radioactive substances associated with flowback water. There should be no open flowback water impoundments; those that exist should be closed down. To allow open impoundments without proper netting and fencing to protect wildlife is unconscionable: imagine a flock of thousands of snow geese landing on a flowback water impoundment -- imagine a bald eagle or osprey seeking to fish in one -- there are countless other examples, all of which could lead to tragic and irrevocable results.

Instituting proper fees for inspection, permitting, and compliance monitoring would at least allow the Commonwealth to move in the direction of ensuring that risks to humans and wildlife from dam failures or open impoundments could be minimized and preferably eliminated.

Given that the offices that oversee such activities are based in the Rachel Carson building, we should heed and remember Carson's warnings about the impact of chemical toxins on wildlife and act now to prevent a Silent Spring from resulting as a result of activity permitted in our Commonwealth.

Thank you for inviting public comment on these important matters.

Sincerely,

Karen L. Frock  
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Williamsport, PA 17701

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