



Tunkhannock Township

1557 Long Pond Road | P.O. Box 203 | Long Pond, PA. 18334
Office: 570-646-3008 | Fax: 570-643-5469 | www.longpondpa.com

November 6, 2017

3150

Via Electronic Mail
Chairman George D. Bedwick
Pennsylvania Independent Regulatory Review Commission
33 Market St., 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
irrc@irrc.state.pa.us

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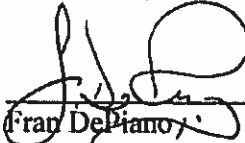
RE: Environmental Quality Board Regulation #7-535 (IRRC #3150)
Stream Redesignation – Swiftwater Creek


Dear Chairman Bedwick:

Tunkhannock Township provides this letter in support of the comments submitted by Pocono Manor Investors, LP (“Pocono Manor”) in the Environmental Quality Board’s (“EQB”) Regulation #7-535 (IRRC #3150), which would reclassify the Designated Use of Swiftwater Creek to Exceptional Value (“EV”). Tunkhannock Township agrees, for the reasons raised by Pocono Manor, that the findings in PADEP’s February 2016 Stream Redesignation Evaluation Report (the “Report”), which provides the technical basis for Regulation #7-535, are not supported by sound science or consistent with PADEP’s regulations and guidance.

Furthermore, Tunkhannock Township is deeply disturbed by the lack of actual notice provided to Pocono Manor, which is the entity most greatly impacted by this proposed reclassification, even after Pocono Manor made PADEP aware that it is adamantly opposed to the reclassification of Swiftwater Creek to EV. Tunkhannock Township joins Pocono Manor in requesting that the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (“IRRC”) defer action on Regulation #7-535 to allow time for Pocono Manor to thoroughly review PADEP’s underlying data and develop additional factual information regarding the proper classification of Swiftwater Creek to present to PADEP, the EQB, and IRRC, as appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,


Fran DePiano
Chairman


George Ewald
Vice Chairman


Steve Malaico
Supervisor

cc: Patrick McDonnell, PADEP Secretary

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The Honorable Senator Gene Yah, Chair, PA State Environment Resources and Energy Committee

The Honorable Senator John Yudichak, Minority Chair, PA Senate Environment Resources and Energy Committee

The Honorable Representative John Maher, Chair, PA House of Representatives Environment Resource and Energy Committee

The Honorable Representative Mike Carroll, Minority Chair, PA House of Representatives Environment Resource and Energy Committee

Annie Lamberton, Supervisor, Tobyhanna Township