



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:28 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; Troutman, Nick; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com; lversen, Sarah A.
Cc: c-jflanaga@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:

William Ewing
 (william.ewing@verizon.net)
 510 E Mount Pleasant Ave
 Philadelphia, PA 19119 US

Comments entered:

Dear PA Environmental Quality Board,

The Department of Environmental Protection's proposed revisions to Chapter 105, governing dams, water obstructions, and encroachments into aquatic resources, seem like a power grab which would move government farther from the people and reduce our Constitution's unique environmental protections.

The Department should reconsider its proposal to allow a company seeking a permit for an industry activity that crosses multiple counties – like a pipeline – to submit only one application, rather than going to each county the activity touches, as presently required.

This proposed change 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 by making it harder for industry to impair our resources. Instead, the Department proposes to make 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.

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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