

**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; lversen, 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:

Tammy Murphy
(tammy@psrpa.org)
3424 Ainslie Street
Philadelphia, PA 19129 US

Comments entered:

Dear DEP Regulatory Comments,

Please consider community perspectives and feedback from public interest and non-profit groups who speak up for the health and safety of the public and the environment because they deserve significant consideration and their comments offer an opportunity for a more cautious final revision of Chapter 105.

In transportation of natural gas liquids or highly volatile liquids is concerning because the natural state of the content is gaseous and only under it highly pressurized state does it remain liquified. It is always seeking an opportunity to return to its gaseous state. Within the category of NGLs, there are many different varieties including propane, butane, and ethane, which is a colorless odorless gas that is principally used to produce ethylene, which the petrochemical industry uses to primarily to export materials for plastic products. At room temperature, ethane is an extremely flammable gas, which forms an explosive mixture when mixed with air. Within the blast zone of an odorless undetectable leak, ringing a doorbell, making a phone call, opening a garage door, turning lights on, or running an engine could ignite a fatal explosion. In the event of a leak in an NGL pipeline, the residents are merely instructed to "leave the area by foot immediately and attempt to stay upwind," but there is no guidance for people to determine

when and whether they are in a safe area. Each county must take these undisclosed risks to human lives into consideration.

The EQB should reconsider its revision that would require project applicants to only submit one application instead of submitting applications in each county a proposed activity touches, as is currently required for large-scale projects like pipelines. The Mariner East pipeline project, for example, touches at least seventeen counties. By only requiring a project applicant to submit one application, EQB's proposed regulations could make it harder for counties and their residents to learn about proposed industrial activities that might affect their water bodies and expose them to undisclosed risk to human life. This revision could make it more difficult for adequate review to take place at the local level where agents are responsible for the quality of the water and overall environment and also for the risk a given project poses to the human lives present in that county.

The EQB should revise these regulations to better protect human lives and Pennsylvania's wetlands and waterways and make it harder for various industries to negatively impact them. The EQB cannot afford to loosen its regulations by allowing waivers and must protect the state's waterways regardless of their size, and avoid making it easier for project applicants to get permits or avoid the permitting process by expanding the number of activities eligible for a waiver from the permitting process.

Chap.105 must allow for each county to consider undisclosed risks to human lives & Article I, § 27 of the PA Constitution.

Sincerely,

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

Jessica Shirley
Director, Office of Policy
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063
Office: 717-783-8727
Fax: 717-783-8926
ecomment@pa.gov