

#3278

Form Letter C 435-482

Stephen Hoffman

From: EP, RegComments <ra-epregcomments@pa.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 4:18 PM
To: IRRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; Iversen, Sarah A.; Emily.Eyster@pasenate.com; Glendon King; Troutman, Nick
Cc: EP, RegComments; Michelle Elliott
Subject: Update: Post-Public Comment Period - Form Letter C - Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556)
Attachments: Form Letter C_Consider Envntl Interests (7-556).pdf

CAUTION: ****EXTERNAL SENDER**** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

Attached is a form letter DEP received regarding Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556). We labeled this letter "Form Letter C: Consider Environmental Interests."

Since the close of the public comment period on February 3, 2021, we have received **48** copies of this letter via email.

Thank you,
Laura

From: EP, RegComments <ra-epregcomments@pa.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 4:20 PM
To: IRRRC <irrc@irrc.state.pa.us>; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; Iversen, Sarah A. <Siversen@pahouse.net>; Emily.Eyster@pasenate.com; Glendon King <gking@pahousegop.com>; Troutman, Nick <ntroutman@pasen.gov>
Cc: EP, RegComments <ra-epregcomments@pa.gov>; Michelle Elliott <melliott@irrc.state.pa.us>
Subject: Update: Post-Public Comment Period - Form Letter C - Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556)

Good afternoon,

Attached is a form letter DEP received regarding Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556). We labeled this letter "Form Letter C: Consider Environmental Interests."

Since the close of the public comment period on February 3, 2021, we have received **42** copies of this letter via email.

Thank you,
Laura

Laura Griffin | Regulatory Coordinator
Department of Environmental Protection | Policy Office
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA
Phone: 717.772.3277 | Fax: 717.783.8926
Email: laurgriffi@pa.gov

Attached is a form letter DEP received regarding Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556). We labeled this letter "Form Letter C: Consider Environmental Interests."

Since the close of the public comment period on February 3, 2021, we have received **37** copies of this letter via email.

Thank you,
Laura

Laura Griffin | Regulatory Coordinator
Department of Environmental Protection | Policy Office
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA
Phone: 717.772.3277 | Fax: 717.783.8926
Email: laurgriffi@pa.gov
www.dep.pa.gov

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In order to prevent the further spread of COVID-19, all DEP offices will remain closed until restrictions are lifted. In the meantime, I will be working remotely to continue the mission of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and frequently retrieving emails. Thank you for your patience.

From: EP, RegComments <ra-epregcomments@pa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 4:53 PM
To: IRRC <irrc@irrc.state.pa.us>; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; Iversen, Sarah A. <SIversen@pahouse.net>; Emily.Eyster@pasenate.com; Glendon King <gking@pahousegop.com>; Troutman, Nick <nt troutman@pasen.gov>
Cc: EP, RegComments <ra-epregcomments@pa.gov>
Subject: Update: Post-Public Comment Period - Form Letter C - Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556)

Good afternoon,

Attached is a form letter DEP received regarding Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556). We labeled this letter "Form Letter C: Consider Environmental Interests."

Since the close of the public comment period on February 3, 2021, we have received **26** copies of this letter via email.

Thank you,
Laura

Laura Griffin | Regulatory Coordinator
Department of Environmental Protection | Policy Office
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA
Phone: 717.772.3277 | Fax: 717.783.8926
Email: laurgriffi@pa.gov
www.dep.pa.gov

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Attached is a form letter DEP received this week regarding Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556). We labeled this letter "Form Letter C: Consider Environmental Interests."

We received a total of **269** copies of this letter via email.

Thank you,
Laura

Laura Griffin | Regulatory Coordinator
Department of Environmental Protection | Policy Office
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA
Phone: 717.772.3277 | Fax: 717.783.8926
Email: laurgriffi@pa.gov
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FORM LETTER C: “Consider Environmental Interests”

Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556)

Dear DEP Regulatory Comments,

I urge the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) to fully consider the following before finalizing its proposed revisions to Chapter 105.

I am concerned that the EQB consulted with industry groups early in the revision process, specifically by presenting proposed revisions and seeking additional input from the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, without giving such an opportunity to public interest and environmental groups. The EQB needs to equally consider feedback from public interest groups who speak up for the health and safety of the public and the environment. The EQB should now give comments from environmental and public interests groups significant consideration and their comments should be treated as an opportunity for further dialogue and contribution.

The EQB should revise these regulations to better protect Pennsylvania’s wetlands and waterways and make it harder for various industries to negatively impact them. Certain proposed revisions could make it easier for project applicants to get permits or avoid the permitting process altogether by expanding the number of activities eligible for a waiver from the permitting process. The EQB cannot afford to loosen its regulations by allowing waivers and must protect the state’s waterways regardless of their size. The EQB should reduce the number of waivers granted and should not allow any waivers for activities impacting Exceptional Value (EV), High Quality (HQ), Class A, Wild Trout, or already impaired streams.

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. 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. This revision could make it more difficult for adequate review to take place at the local level and hinder the county’s role in reviewing the county-specific impacts from projects like pipelines.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,