

PA Environment Digest

An Update on Environmental Issues In Pennsylvania

Edited By David E. Hess, Holston & Crisci

July 19, 2004

All sides—Senate, House, Governor, DEP-- looked to clarify their positions this week on what they think will happen on environmental spending initiatives this summer and fall.

I've also included a special update on activities surrounding the Quecreek Mine Rescue site. It was two years ago this week that combined state, federal and private rescue workers were able to rescue nine miners trapped in the Quecreek Mine July 24, 2002.

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On the Hill

Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund Not Healthy, Growing Greener Funding Continues

In various forums last week leadership from the Senate and House, as well as the Rendell Administration agreed there must be a long-term funding fix for DEP's Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund, but as leaders from both the Senate and House shared, the Administration rejected a budget fix for this year.

Legislative leaders also emphasized that funding for watershed grants under the original Growing Greener Program continues as planned.

Hazardous Sites Cleanup

DEP took the unusual step of publishing [a letter from Senate Majority Leader David J. Brightbill \(R-Lebanon\)](#) in its July 16 Update newsletter this week that took DEP to task for "attacking" the Governor's final budget settlement in the [July 9 Update](#).

"The commentary regarding the status of the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund (HSCF) is particularly disturbing. Recognizing that future funding must be identified, \$10 million in short-term funding was included in the Senate-passed version of the state budget.

"However, in final negotiations the Administration opposed efforts to provide this critical short-term funding out of existing revenue in the General Fund -- money that would have held off the "grave threat" DEP says we now face.

"Truly we need a long-term fix. Time to study HSCF is needed to determine the Fund's actual financial state, if for no other reason than to determine why the Administration has given the General Assembly no fewer than four different balances for HSCF for the coming year."

Having General Fund money used for the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program was part of the funding formula ever since the program was enacted in 1988. However, a General Fund contribution was not made after the 1991 budget crisis.

Language giving the governor authority to transfer General Fund monies to the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund to make up for shortfalls was also included in legislative changes made in 2002.

Growing Greener Watershed Grants

On funding for watershed grants under the original Growing Greener Program, Sen. Brightbill and Rep. Sam Smith (R-Jefferson) House Majority Leader both pointed out that funding will continue for watershed groups as planned for this fiscal year.

For fiscal year 2004-05, DEP will have a total of \$31.5 million to spend from the Environmental Stewardship Fund, there was no cut in funding for this share.

DEP announced Friday it would spend an initial [\\$3.9 million to support watershed specialists](#) in county conservation districts. About \$3.1 million (10 percent) is reserved to fund innovative sewer and water projects, but DEP has not said how the remainder of its \$24.5 million will be spent for this year.

In the past DEP has used Growing Greener dollars to fund a portion of its Energy Harvest Grant program, the local share of the Crop Reserve Enhancement Program and DEP's own mine reclamation and oil and gas well plugging projects.

In [last year's watershed grant announcements](#), DEP combined funds from a variety of state and federal programs to support watershed activities.

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Commenting on both programs, Sen. Brightbill concluded his letter by saying he is, "...absolutely committed to improving Pennsylvania's environment. It was a Republican Governor and Republican General Assembly that enacted the Land Recycling and Growing Greener Acts. Our members have demonstrated their commitment to protecting our environment, and we look forward to the recommendations of the Green Ribbon Commission. We also hope that the departmental rhetoric will soon begin to align with the facts."

Both Sen. Brightbill and Rep. Smith committed to form a "Green Ribbon Commission" to develop environmental spending initiatives for later this year and next spring.

Special Commentary: "Republicans Are Committed to Growing Greener"

House Majority Leader Rep. Sam Smith (R-Jefferson) this week circulated an op-ed piece to underscore the commitment both the Senate and House have to environmental funding....

"As a legislator from a small town in western Pennsylvania, I know I am probably no match for a bunch of Philadelphia lawyers; however, I did expect that a deal was a deal. You see we agreed to address Growing Greener this fall.

"At the same time Gov. Ed Rendell and his administration were holding numerous media events to give themselves cover from their Growing Greener supporters, his staff informed us they were really not going to push the issue. As you should know by now, the governor's true goal this past year was gambling –at any cost. Growing Greener could wait.

"Additionally, the governor's "proposal" mainly redefined Growing Greener to include programs for parks and recreation, downtown beautification, brownfield development, mine reclamation and orphan well plugging. These are existing programs created and supported by Republicans.

"As we have come to expect, the governor's plan was great for the "big picture" but short on details – details that were slow in being developed.

"As leader of the House Republicans, I had expressed concerns about the large bond issue the governor proposed to pay for this and instead advocated we pay for Growing Greener programs as we go. My concern was that the bond proceeds would be spent in four or five years, and then these programs would be unfunded for about 20 years while taxpayers pay off the \$800 million loan.

"For his administration to now suggest that the legislature failed to fund Growing Greener is simply false.

"While we proposed additional funding for the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund, the governor's staff opposed it. During the budget discussions and negotiations, the only time the governor's staff brought up their "Growing Greener" proposal was to direct the legislature to NOT FUND the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund or other environmental programs. The budget secretary said he would be holding a meeting on June 30 to discuss the governor's Growing Greener II proposal. To date, that meeting has not occurred or been scheduled.

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“Since the Rendell Administration failed to revisit the issue, I proposed and Senate Majority Leader David “Chip” Brightbill agreed to invite him, along with House and Senate Democrats, to participate in a “Green Ribbon Commission.” The commission is being formed to jointly study and develop recommendations for environmental programs and to determine the best funding options and report back by the fall. This allows enough time that if a bond does need to be floated, a ballot question can be developed for the spring 2005 Primary.

“The Rendell Administration has accepted our invitation. (Ironically, they pushed us very hard to do this via a letter as opposed to a formal resolution voted on by the General Assembly that I originally suggested. That’s those smart Philadelphians getting the best of a country boy again!)

“While the media and the administration would like you to believe that the General Assembly ignored the environment entirely, this new state budget has creditable funding for environmental initiatives.

“House Republicans included \$14.6 million to fund Waste Tire Recycling Grants, Safe Drinking Water Grants and the Senior Environmental Corps. The governor’s initial budget proposal eliminated the funds for these programs. House Republicans helped to increase an additional \$1.5 million in state funds for the Susquehanna River Basin Commission and the Delaware River Basin Commission for water resource studies and related work; the County Conservation Corps and Mushroom Nutrient Management. Republicans maintained the dedicated funding for Growing Greener. In actual dollars, the Department of Environmental Protection received \$17 million increase over the governor’s budget proposal. We allocated an additional \$2 million to Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to help with the state parks and community parks.

“Republicans recognize the need for a long-term commitment to the Commonwealth’s environmental needs such as preserving open space in the east and reclaiming abandoned mines in the west. Like it or not, this is not a four-year, \$800 million problem, nor a five year photo-op; it requires a lifetime commitment.

“The House and Senate are committed to working together to identify, develop and recognize the funding needs for Pennsylvania’s environmental programs -- programs that will help us actually “grow greener.” [end]

Gov. Rendell “Appreciates the Positive Attitude” of Senate, House Leaders

In his own electronic newsletter Friday, Gov. Rendell responded to the commitments made by the Senate and House Leadership in a July 4 letter to address funding for hazardous sites cleanup and expanded environmental funding by saying—

“I know you share my concern about the financial condition of the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund, which provides financing for many of the state’s most critical brownfield cleanup projects. Pennsylvania has been a leader in this area, but we cannot hope to remain so if these programs are allowed to wither because this Fund is deprived of a dedicated source of revenue. Once again, the most appropriate funding source for cleaning up these sites is one that ties directly back to those who generate pollution or other waste products.

“Most of all, I appreciate the positive attitude you are bringing to this subject. Pennsylvania is facing serious environmental and quality of life challenges, and an

expanded Growing Greener program will help us address these challenges with the urgency they require. I am confident we can work together in a spirit of cooperation to enact legislation this fall.”

New Joint Committee Poll Shows 59% Consider Themselves Environmentalists

The Joint Senate/House Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee this week released a survey of environmental attitudes in Pennsylvania which showed 59 percent of residents consider themselves environmentalists, down from 63 percent in 2003, but consistent with recent results.

The environmental attitude questions were included in the annual Mansfield University “The Public Mind Survey.”

Those people who consider themselves environmentalist generally “walk the walk” by supporting, contributing and taking actions to support the environment, rather than those who consider themselves not to be environmentalists as seen below.

Activity	“Environmentalist”	“Not Environmentalist”
Recycle cans	90.5 %	72.1%
Refuse to buy harmful product	59.8%	24.8%
Contributed money	53.4%	17%
Vote for E-candidate	58.4%	15.7%
Spend more for Wind Powered Electricity	67.5%	49.1%
Volunteer Work	33.3%	16.5%
Member of Group	17%	7%

Interestingly, relatively few people on either side are members of organized environmental groups, but they both like to recycle and surprisingly both would pay more for electricity generated from wind power.

For the first time, the Joint Committee included questions related to the public’s attitude toward the environment affecting their individual health—78 percent feel there is a relationship between the quality of the environment and public health, 67 percent feel the quality of the environment in their community has affected their health, 67 percent feel the environment in their home has affected their health and 70 percent said the quality of the environment in their workplace has affected their health.

Fifty-three percent said they have learned something about how the environment impacts public health that has caused them to change their environmental point of view.

What does the typical Pennsylvania environmentalist look like? According to this survey—74 percent of those 65+ who responded called themselves environmentalists, 45 percent from age 18 to 34; nearly 62 percent of females and 56 percent of males; 61 percent of whites, 43 percent of Blacks; 67 percent of rural residents and 57 percent of urban; 64 percent of Democrats, 56 percent of Republicans, 61 percent of Independents.

When other polls like the non-profit group [IssuesPA](#) try to gauge how important people think environmental issues are compared to crime, education or health care, the environment barely shows up, however, the environment can be a wedge issue in individual races and for some likely voters.

For more on the survey, see the [Joint Committee's July newsletter](#). The Joint Committee is chaired by Rep. Scott Hutchinson (R-Venango).

In Other News

1,711 Brownfield Sites Completed Thru Land Recycling, Most at Private Expense

More than 1,711 brownfield sites have been made ready for reuse under Pennsylvania's award-winning Land Recycling Program since it began in 1995, according to DEP this week, almost all a private, not public expense.

Since 1988, the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program has taken action to [evaluate or cleanup pollution at 220 sites around the state](#). Funding from HSCA is typically used at most of these sites to do the initial evaluations, or quick emergency type cleanups, with funding for permanent cleanups and reimbursement for emergency cleanup costs coming from responsible private parties.

Of the 220 sites, only about 21 resulted in a primarily state-funded remediation projects or ongoing maintenance responsibility. Of the 220 sites, 19 have been officially listed on [Pennsylvania's Toxic Sites Cleanup List](#), of which 12 have been cleaned up, again most by private parties.

The Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund is also used to fund Pennsylvania's 10 percent share of federal Superfund sites in Pennsylvania, emergency response activities and for 315 DEP staff involved in the waste, environmental cleanup and Land Recycling Programs.

[EPA Asked to Reclassify Lancaster to Marginal Nonattainment Air Area](#)

Lake Wallenpaupack Agreement Benefits Community, Environment and PPL

PPL Corporation has reached a [cooperative agreement](#) with local residents, community groups, state and federal resource agencies and private interest groups that will ensure a balance among the many uses of Lake Wallenpaupack for the next 40 years.

The settlement agreement is part of the relicensing process for the Wallenpaupack hydroelectric project near Hawley, Pa.

PPL's license to operate the Wallenpaupack hydroelectric generating project expires this year. As part of the settlement agreement, PPL is asking Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to renew its operating license through 2044.

In return, PPL has agreed to enhance the trout fishery along a six-mile section of the Lackawaxen River downstream of the project at an expected operating cost of about \$8 million. The company also will fund more than \$2.5 million in various environmental and water monitoring studies to be conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. National Park Service and the Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed Management District.

In addition, PPL will make shoreline fishing improvements at various sites to allow access by people with disabilities, fund a total of \$440,000 of recreational fishing and boating enhancements through the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and provide \$150,000 for habitat restoration projects in the Upper Delaware River Basin.

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The company also will restrict generation during trout season, initiate whitewater boating releases, construct a trail from the Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center to the wetlands area below the dam and develop related educational programs, as well as provide support to the Lake Wallenpaupack Recreation Council and to Palmyra Township's beach facilities.

FERC is expected to act on the application in September.

NewsClip: [Lake Wallenpaupack Agreement Benefits Community, Environment](#)

[July 23 Deadline for DEP Energy Harvest Grants](#)

[July 30 Deadline for Growing Greener Innovative Water/Sewer Project Grants](#)

John Klunk, Codorus Creek, Wins 2004 River Hero Award

John Klunk, long time activist with the Codorus Creek Improvement Partnership, was recognized as one of the [River Network's four 2004 River Heroes](#).

Klunk helped organize water monitoring teams on the Codorus to pinpoint the cause of water quality issues in the stream. After documenting his case, he pursued actions with both the Department of Environmental Protection and P.H. Glatfelter to achieve water quality improvements.

One result was a \$2.5 million settlement with Glatfelter to help improve water quality in the creek.

Past winners of the [River Network's](#) River Hero Award include David Hess, former Secretary Department of Environmental Protection.



John is 2nd from right

Meetings Set for Allegheny River TMDL Plans

DEP has scheduled public meeting for July 20 for two TMDL (total maximum daily load) plans for the Montour Run and Moon Run watersheds in the Allegheny River drainage area. For specific fact sheets on plans for each of these areas, go to the [TMDL webpage](#) and look up both watersheds. Comments are due on these TMDLs by September 16.

Contact [Ron Horansky](#) in the Greensburg Mining Office for more information about both of these TMDL proposals at 724-925-5538.

DEP Requests Proposals for New or Innovative AMD Metals Recovery

The Department of Environmental Protection is soliciting proposals for demonstration or implementation of new or innovative in-situ or ex-situ treatment or abatement technologies or enhanced metals recovery for acid mine drainage (Bid No. OSM PA(AMD-04).

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Letters requesting the Request for Proposal must be received by 2 p.m. on August 16, 2004, and shall be sent to Joseph H. Schueck, Chief, Division of Acid Mine Drainage Abatement, Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation, Department of Environmental Protection, P.O. Box 8476, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8476, fax (717) 783-0470. Individuals with questions should contact [Joseph H. Schueck](#), (717) 783-5633.

[Philadelphia Neighborhood Transformation Project Receives EPA Grant](#)

Pennsylvania Seeks Bicentennial Farms for Recognition

The Department of Agriculture announced a new Bicentennial Farm Program this week to recognize Pennsylvania families who have been farming the same land for 200 years.

[Applications must be submitted by November 1.](#)

Applicants must have: farms owned by the same family for at least 200 consecutive years; a family member must live on the farm on a permanent basis; and the farm must consist of at least 10 acres of the original holding, or gross more than \$1,000 annually from the sale of farm products.

Recipients of Bicentennial Farm awards will be invited to attend a special ceremony at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, held annually in Harrisburg.

For more information call (717) 787-5085.

Game Commission Wildlife Events Coming at Middle Creek

Representatives of Pennsylvania waterfowl organizations, individual sportsmen and the public are invited to attend a briefing on August 13, co-hosted by the Game Commission and the Susquehanna River Waterfowlers' Association, on the status of Atlantic Flyway waterfowl populations and proposed preliminary federal frameworks for the 2004-2005 hunting seasons.

The briefing will begin at 1 p.m. in the Game Commission's Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area Visitor Center, along Hopeland Road, two miles south of Kleinfeltersville, Lebanon County.

In addition to reviewing frameworks established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for upcoming waterfowl and migratory bird seasons, Game Commission staff, along with representatives of the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and USFWS, will provide updates on current and planned research and management programs, as well as past hunting results.

Public comments will be accepted at the meeting; by sending a letter to: Pennsylvania Game Commission, Bureau of Wildlife Management, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797; or via e-mail (ra-waterfowlcomments@state.pa.us).

Wildlife Art Show

The Pennsylvania Game Commission's Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area Visitor Center will feature hundreds of original paintings and fine art prints from the best-known wildlife artists in the state during its annual Wildlife Art Show from August 6-8. The show is free, and the hours are: Friday, 1-6 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

In addition to the artists' sales, the art show will sell tickets for \$2 each or 3 for \$5 for a drawing that will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, August 8. Four prizes will be awarded.

Alliance to Save Energy Gives Kids Web Page of Their Own

The Alliance to Save Energy has launched its first-ever [energy-efficiency web page aimed at tweens](#). Youth can log on and check out what other kids are already doing to save energy and the environment. The website hosts news written by kids for kids, web links to interactive energy games, and online educational activities and resources.

Some of the features of the Alliance's new site for kids:

- Appliance Olympics. Energy Star-labeled refrigerators, clothes washers, and torchiere lamps race against conventional competition to show that energy efficiency is always a winner. Go Green!
- Clearing the Air. An interactive game teaches the causes of pollution caused by home energy use, showing the impact of energy-inefficient vs. energy-efficient appliances on the environment. You can help "Frank" clear the air.
- Flash Animation. The difference between energy conservation and energy efficiency is brought to life in "Good Idea + Better Idea = Best Idea."
- Alliance Green Schools Program. The K-12 hands-on, interactive program teaches students, teachers, and facility managers to reduce school energy use so that savings can be used for education. Check out stories written for kids by kids in the Green School Gazette. Also see what Green Schools' students are accomplishing in the US and abroad.
- Energy Hogbuster. An interactive energy training camp complements the Ad Council's Energy Hog TV PSAs and gets kids fired up about fighting energy waste and promoting energy efficiency.
- Kids can also meet "Energy Ant," visit "Dr. E's Energy Lab," and journey through "Energyquest"-- all of which are linked to the site.

The Alliance to Save Energy is a coalition of prominent business, government, environmental, and consumer leaders who promote the efficient and clean use of energy worldwide to benefit consumers, the environment, economy, and national security.

Taking Positive Action

Merging Environmental Technology with Neighborhood Improvement



Local community organizations have always been at the forefront of environmental improvement. Advances in technology have helped grassroots groups become even more successful in recent years by giving people access to up-to-date and easy-to-understand information about environmental conditions in their neighborhood.

Find out how neighborhood groups use these new tools to their advantage by going to the [Acting Locally website](#) sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and GreenTreks.

[EPA Seeks Nominees for Clean Air Excellence Awards By Sept. 17](#)

Application Deadline Nears for President's Environmental Youth Awards

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is accepting applications for the 2004 [President's Environmental Youth Awards \(PEYA\)](#) until July 31. Winners will be selected for each EPA Region.

Students in kindergarten through twelfth grade in all 50 states and the U.S. territories are eligible and encouraged to submit applications. Since 1971, EPA has sponsored PEYA annually to honor students from around the country who develop innovative projects that help protect local environments and promote environmental awareness in their communities.

In 2002, Pdraig Flynn and Boy Scout Troop 92 from Tyrone were recognized for their work with PennDOT to create the Bellwood-Antis Wetlands Education Center. In 2001 students from Huntingdon Area Middle School Environmental club were recognized for the Standing Stone Creek Water Quality Assessment that was funded in part by the Growing Greener Program.

Applicants must be sponsored by an adult and submit evidence of their finished project, along with a completed application, to the Region 3 office of EPA in Philadelphia.

Public Interest Grows in Quecreek Mine Rescue Site in Somerset County, PA

Public interest in visiting the site where nine miners were [rescued from the Quecreek Mine](#) two years ago continues to grow, according to Bill Arnold the owner of Dormel Farms where the rescue took place.

“The rescue was a miracle, there’s no other way to describe it,” said Arnold. “People from all over the world have come to learn about the rescue, what coal mining is all about and how everyone worked together to save the lives of the miners.”

On July 24, 2002 miners broke through into an abandoned, water-filled mine flooding the Quecreek Mine with over 50 million gallons of water. Nine miners scrambled to safety, but nine were trapped in a pocket of air in the dark, cold, water-filled mine. They were rescued four days later through the combined efforts of state and federal mine rescue agencies and hundreds of workers.

“The first year after the rescue we were overwhelmed by all the interest—we just ran a dairy farm before all this” said Arnold. “We are grateful for all the help we received from the members of our Quecreek Mine Rescue Foundation and the community to help us present the site to the public.”

More than 200 buses are expected to visit the rescue site this year, along with thousands of individual visitors, many of whom also visit the Flight 93 crash site just a few miles away.



“Nine For Nine”

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“This year we plan an anniversary celebration in keeping with the very special nature of the rescue,” explained Arnold. “Members of the rescue team, several of the rescued miners and other state and local officials will be there.”

The anniversary celebration this year will be held on Saturday, July 24th at 10AM, at the rescue site.

The yellow rescue capsule used to rescue the miners will be on display courtesy of the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration, along with the bit that drilled the rescue shaft from Yost Drilling and many other items related to the rescue.

“We are also pleased to announce we will be applying soon to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to have the rescue site designated as a National & state historic landmark,” said Arnold. “We will also be working with the Commission to have an historic marker commemorating the events placed here.”

To help offset the cost of developing and maintaining the rescue site, the Quecreek Mine Rescue Foundation commissioned a special commemorative poster by local artist Robert Clarke that captures the many aspects of the rescue.

Prints of the poster are available for \$10 at the rescue site or contacting the Quecreek Mine Rescue Foundation, 151 Haupt Road, Somerset, PA 15501 or calling 814-445-4876. The Foundation may also be reached on the internet at, www.QuecreekRescue.org.

The Quecreek Mine Rescue Foundation is a non-profit 501(c) (3) charitable organization that relies on public support. This mission of the Foundation is to educate the public about: the Quecreek mine rescue effort, the many aspects of the rescue scene and those who were instrumental in carrying it out, the coal mining industry in Southwestern Pennsylvania and to commemorate the historic events which occurred during the rescue through, among other things, the establishment, operation and maintenance of a memorial park at the site of the rescue.

This past year the Foundation was grateful to receive a grant of \$75,000 for general support from the Oxford Foundation created by the Ware Family and a \$6,500 grant from the Somerset County Tourism grant program to support its activities.

Former Governor Mark Schweiker, Joe Scaffoni, Director of DEP’s Bureau of Deep Mine Safety, David Hess, former Secretary of DEP, and others involved in the rescue and in the Somerset community are members of an advisory committee to the Foundation.

Watershed NewsClips

[River Network Featured Group: Codorus Creek improvement Partnership](#)

[American Land Conservation Award Deadline July 21](#)

[Mine-Fill Company Gets State Rail Grant](#)

[Montco Authorizes \\$60 Million for Open Space Preservation](#)

[Environmental Groups Hitting Hard Times – Groundwater Guardians](#)

[Groups Urge Community Help in Creating Loyalhanna Trails](#)

[Depleted Oxygen City in 3 VA Rivers](#)

[Watershed Rights Sought by Township](#)

[Professor’s Runoff Experiment Takes a Soaking](#)

[Penn State Researcher Looking at Impact of Non-Native Trout](#)

[20 Years of Memories of Kettle Creek](#)
[Lack of Federal Funds Halts Nine Mine Run Restoration](#)
[\\$500K Grant Gives Big Woods Preservation Big Boost](#)

Regulations

[Final Radiological Health Regulations](#) were published in the July 17 Pennsylvania Bulletin.

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission will meet on July 29 to consider a final Environmental Quality Board regulation to exclude extraction of coal incidental to government-financed highway construction or reclamation projects from the coal mining requirements of Chapters 86, 87 and 88. See the [June 15 EQB agenda packet](#) for a copy of the rule.

[Pennsylvania Bulletin – July 17, 2004](#)

[Comment Deadlines Open](#)

[Copies of Proposed Regulations](#)

[Status of Regulations, 6-Month Calendar](#)

Technical Guidance & Permits

No new guidance this week.

[For copies of Draft Technical Guidance](#)

[For copies of Final Technical Guidance](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 22 – [State Water Plan Statewide Water Resources Committee](#). [Watch this page](#) for upcoming agenda information.

[DEP Calendar of Events](#)

[Watershed Events](#)

Helpful Web Links

[Daily NewsClips](#)

[Weekly DEP Update](#)

[GreenTreks Network](#)

[Watershed Weekly](#)

[DEP Press Releases](#)

[DEP Advisory Committee Meetings & Agendas](#)

Contributions Invited

Send your stories about environmental issues, programs and positive actions to **PA Environment Digest** - DHess@HolstonCrisci.com .

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