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GAS BOOM REJUVENATES MANUFACTURING

Petrochemical companies are making multibillion-dollar bets to profit from the abundant cheap natural gas pouring out of shale-rock formations across the U.S.

Natural-gas prices have plummeted in recent years as a new wave of supply has been unlocked from Texas to Pennsylvania through technological advances, including horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing. The low prices have been tough on some oil and gas companies' bottom lines. But the trend has given chemical and plastics producers a reason to expand in the U.S., creating jobs and reviving a sector of the economy that many people had written off.

The manufacturing renaissance sweeping across the U.S. today is a shift from the year 2000, when it seemed unlikely that new petrochemical plants would be built in places such as the coastal region near the Gulf of Mexico, according to Dave Witte, general manager of IHS Chemical, an energy consulting group.

The assumption was that new petrochemical plants and associated investments in plastics, rubber resins and metals manufacturing would be focused in Asia and countries rich in natural gas, such as Iran.

Gases and liquids pumped out of the ground, including ethane, can be processed into chemicals that are made into products ranging from plastics and antifreeze to cosmetics. New petrochemical projects are under way, with Dow Chemical, Sasol Ltd., Phillips 66 and other companies building 48 factories and plant expansions, thanks to the plentiful natural gas now available in the U.S., the American Chemistry Council said.

The combined price tag for that construction: more than \$100 billion, the council said. IHS Chemical estimated that \$125 billion in petrochemical investments related to U.S. shale gas have been announced, with more likely to come.

In an about-face, the U.S. is drawing foreign manufacturing investments, Mr. Witte said.

The resurrection of U.S. manufacturing in the service of developing the chemical sector and pumping more oil and gas—including building machinery and fabricating steel and iron—is breathing new life into major metropolitan areas, according to IHS report released last week that was commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLEAN WATER AGENCIES COMMENTS TO EPA ON STORMWATER

EPA is considering three petitions submitted on July 10, 2013 to EPA Regions 1, 3, and 9 asking the respective Regional Administrators to invoke EPA's "residual designation authority" (RDA) and require Clean Water Act (CWA) discharge permits for certain sites discharging stormwater to impaired waterways.

NACWA has commented to EPA as follows:

- NACWA agrees with the petitioners' concept that the regulatory burden of stormwater dischargers is subject to NPDES permits.

- Any new approach to stormwater regulation – including the RDA concept – that would place more responsibility for managing stormwater on the large industrial and commercial property owners responsible for creating the majority of runoff and ease the burden on municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) is worthy of consideration.

- NACWA's primary concerns with the RDA approach lie in the details of how it would be implemented and what the potential unintended consequences on MS4s might be.

- The National Stormwater Quality Database cited within the petitions indicates that urban stormwater significantly impacts water quality. Existing regulatory controls are in place to address most certain sources of urban stormwater pollution, most notably through the states' MS4 and industrial stormwater programs. As we see it, the petitions do not call for any additional regulation on existing MS4 permittees, but instead focus on permits for currently unregulated commercial, industrial, or institutional dischargers.

- To the extent EPA's response and new permitting requirements focus solely on large, privately owned stormwater dischargers (such as shopping centers, strip malls, airports, and large industrial areas) contributing to water quality impairment, that are not currently regulated, such a permitting scheme may reduce existing stormwater pollution loadings and could provide a more equitable distribution of the regulator and economic

costs of managing stormwater between MS4s and private commercial/industrial land owners.

- The Association's main concern is how EPA may assign administrative responsibility for permitting these dischargers. NACWA would be opposed to any efforts that might require existing MS4s to carry out additional monitoring and/or enforcement duties related to RDA-based stormwater permits, as those utilities are already responsible for complying with a variety of CWA regulations at steep costs and would have no standing to enforce permits outside their boundaries.

- NACWA is concerned about the vague and potentially overly broad categories of sources outlined in the petitions for RDA regulation. The petitions request that all non-de minimis discharges be permitted "from impervious surfaces associated with industrial, institutional and commercial sites" in impaired watersheds.

- During discussions with the petitioners, it has become clear that they believe that stormwater runoff from non-regulated sources is a major source of water quality impairment around the nation. It is also clear that the petitioners believe municipalities and MS4s are unfairly carrying the majority of the regulatory and economic costs related to increased stormwater controls.

Stormwater continues to receive a lot of attention from regulators. This is one of RT's strongest growth areas. Justin Lauterbach and Josh Hagadorn spoke on Stormwater at the PA Chamber of Business and Industry's Spring Environmental Conference in Lancaster and Gary Brown spoke on Stormwater Engineering at the PA Bar Institute's Environmental Forum in Harrisburg, both in April. Contact us at 800-725-0593 for more information.

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GAS BOOM REJUVENATES MANUFACTURING (continued from page 1)

From 2010 to 2012 energy-intensive manufacturing sectors added more than 196,000 U.S. jobs and increased real sales by \$124 billion in the nation's metro areas, according to the report.

Steel plants across Indiana's Rust Belt and from Birmingham, Alabama, to Knoxville, Tennessee, to West Mifflin, Pennsylvania, have more orders for metal. And machinery-sector growth exploded between 2010 and 2012, with Houston leading the way, followed by Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles and Milwaukee, the report said. "That means jobs," said Lansing, Michigan Mayor Virg Bernero. "There are still people who need jobs, and advanced manufacturing is the ticket."

(By Alison Sider – Lynn Cook contributed to this article, Wall Street Journal – 3/24/14)
Western Pennsylvania, once the center of the steel industry, is hoping that this increase in natural gas production will breathe new life into the area again. Many believe that the gas boom will lead to additional manufacturing industry jobs in Pennsylvania. Some may argue that it already has to an extent. However, the highest of hopes rest on the potential for the development of the multibillion-dollar chemical plant by Royal Dutch Shell. Shell is currently evaluating a site in Beaver County, PA along the Ohio River. The primary reason Shell has considered locating the plant in the area is due to the flood of domestically produced natural gas. This "cracker" plant will convert natural gas into

more profitable chemicals such as ethylene, which is used to make plastics, tires, antifreeze, fertilizer, and other products. It is logical to assume that a significant amount of additional sites in the area will be developed, primarily for manufacturing, subsequent to Shell finalizing its plans for development of the chemical plant.

Many believe that construction of this chemical plant will revive the manufacturing industry in those areas where it was believed to be gone forever. Towns along the Rivers of Western PA which were decimated by the closing of the steel mills have been given a new sense of hope. Most agree that the construction of the plant will lead to a major initial influx of jobs and opportunities associated with the construction of the plant. But, surely, the long-term economy stability of the Region rests on the ability of the manufacturing industry to resurge, allowing people to thrive with well-paying jobs from which they can support their families and give back to their communities. The type of long term, stable, blue-collar jobs that were historically seen during the height of the steel industry's success, have been difficult to find in recent decades. Natural gas may prove to be the root cause of the manufacturing industry's resurgence in the area and could prove to be Western PA's next Steel.

Justin Lauterbach, Vice President
RT Environmental Services, Inc.
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RT STAFF AND PROJECT NEWS

CHRIS WARD is RT's newest New Jersey Licensed Site Remediation Professional. He is a graduate of Drexel University and has 10 years of experience here at RT. Chris has worked on many of New Jersey's most challenging soil and groundwater remediation sites.

BEN MCGOVERN joined RT's King of Prussia technical staff. He has degrees in Sustainable Engineering – Chemical Engineering and Marine Biology. He is already hard at work on General Permit determinations for expanded slag beneficial uses at Pittsburgh area facilities.

JUSTIN LAUTERBACH, QEP, is evaluating a West Virginia Steel mill with respect to remediation costs and timeframe. The facility is under a RCRA Corrective Action Program.

WALTER HUNGARTER, P.E. is managing redevelopment projects in Mt. Laurel, NJ and in Chester County, PA. Both involve large scale retail, and in one instance, new state of the art recreational facilities.

GLENN GRAHAM is project manager for a Clifton, NJ heat treating site being eyed for cleanup and redevelopment, with both EPA and NJDEP coordination needed.

At RT Review Press Time, GARY BROWN, P.E. was rounding out Spring environmental seminars for PA Bar Institute, and for PA Asphalt Pavement Association members.

Spring is proving very busy for RT, and we thank our clients for the many opportunities you bring to us.

Gary R. Brown, P.E.
RT Environmental Services, Inc.
President

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AMERICA'S BEST DAYS AHEAD? . . . WHY WE AT RT THINK WARREN BUFFET'S GOT IT RIGHT

Warren Buffet, who is arguably America's best business man, also known as the "*Oracle of Omaha*", recently was quoted as saying America's best days are ahead. With so much seemingly bad news on our media, seeming deadlock in Congress, and stories of people not treating each other right, we think if one takes a deep breath, relaxes, and thinks about where we have come from in America and where we are going, Warren Buffet as America's private sector leader, has got it right.

Here is why we think that is true from an environmental standpoint:

- In just a few short years, the County has begun changing over to use of natural gas. As a result, there is a huge spinoff – we are burning cleaner fuel for heating, for power generation, and burning cleaner fuel in buses and trucks, and likely more so in the future, even cars.

- Unlike other states and the federal government, who can't seem to decide on proper environmental protection for old coal ash lagoons, Pennsylvania moved to solve its problems years ago, and when any problem becomes evident at older coal ash lagoon facilities or active facilities, promptly address it, based on previous experience, prompt site visits, and sound engineering.

- In New Jersey, when it was realized that the number of unaddressed contaminated sites was much more than 10,000 statewide, the state's environmental protection regulatory leaders moved to set up a privatized cleanup program, and many thousands of sites are now moving efficiently, and more cost effectively than in the past through cleanup.

- When our railroads found out that moving crude oil from North Dakota was producing special hazards, trains were promptly rerouted away from more sensitive areas and cities, speeds were lowered, and moves were promptly made throughout the industry to begin immediately building a new generation of tank cars, which will be safer.

- A huge spinoff from the increased production and use of domestic use of natural gas, is that we are becoming a leader in reducing worldwide greenhouse gas emissions.

- Use of railroads to move the crude oil, rather than constructing more pipelines, has also reduced the extent of crude oil traveling long distances by ship from the Middle East, to the U.S east coast.

- Use of existing railroad infrastructure, which goes back to the early 1800s being used for crude oil movement has allowed for reductions in environmental impact. Oil routed to the refinery that needs it minimizes environmental impact from constructing new pipelines.

Our long term objectives . . . a good economy and clean environment are key for Americans . . . we still have the capacity to invent new methods to produce energy, we can use existing infrastructure in new ways, while keeping in mind environmental objectives. We can implement major changes using existing infrastructure, without endless debate, and our states can promptly move to address their individual priorities, producing the key environmental issues of concern there, and our energy sector can move quickly to cleaner fuels.

It should also be said that Warren Buffet is not our only key leader...other environmental leaders who are well respected in RT's service area also come to mind.

One leader is *Ken Kloof* of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, who helps move the state's LSRP Site Remediation Program. He helps assure that the Site Remediation Program works, integrate bureaus and groups, listens to common sense ideas, and makes sure that the Program runs properly, and is appropriately staffed. *Wayne Howitz*, also a key leader at NJDEP, combines many years of practical experience with a "can do, common sense" attitude, to help show LSRPs what to do, quickly, efficiently, and appropriately. We at RT think,

in two short years, that Wayne and Ken have made New Jersey's Licensed Site Remediation Professional Program, a leader among privatized cleanup programs, with technical excellence, progress, and efficiency being a hallmark of the program.

In Pennsylvania, a key environmental leader, *Steve Socash*, runs the state's Waste and Beneficial Use Program. In addition to program accolades as to how well Pennsylvania's Beneficial Use Program works to address proper environmental management of materials and address liability, a key milestone was recently reached. At a site which was one of the world's largest steel plants for generations, but which is now closed, Beneficial Use Permits were issued for use of Ranney Well water (for use as part of Marcellus Shale production), and more importantly, for the beneficial use of slag, as subbase, or as an ingredient in asphalt plants or concrete ready mix plants, and as a material for shale pad production.

So why does Warren Buffet say our best days are ahead? It's pretty simple to us:

- Better environmental protection.
- Cleaner air and lower greenhouse gas emissions with so much gas available from fracking, invented by George Mitchell.
- Better use of materials from what otherwise would be waste.

Efficient and technically appropriate environmental cleanups.

- Rapid changeover to cleaner fuels in power plants, buildings, and motor vehicles.

- Safer use of existing infrastructure to get cleaner fuels to refineries.

American leaders who dedicate their personal work to excellence are shining. The *Oracle of Omaha* does not speak "throw away lines". We see leaders such as those mentioned above providing a better path for our future. We all should be comfortable that better days for Americans, undoubtedly are ahead.

Gary R. Brown, P.E., L.S.R.P., Q.E.P.
President

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FEDERAL REGULATORY UPDATES

DOT REQUIRES STRICTER STANDARDS TO TRANSPORT CRUDE OIL BY RAIL

The DOT in March issued an Emergency Order requiring all shippers to test product from the Bakken region to ensure the proper classification of crude oil before it is transported by rail, while also prohibiting the transportation of crude oil in the lowest-strength packing group.

Emergency orders are issued to protect the public and environment from the likelihood of substantial harm created by an imminent hazard. The recent Emergency Order, the fourth from DOT in less than a year, was issued in response to recent derailments involving trains carrying crude oil from the Bakken region and out of concerns over proper classification that are currently under investigation as part of Operation Classification, also known as the Bakken Blitz.

Effective immediately, those who offer crude oil for transportation by rail must ensure that the product is properly tested and classified in accordance with federal safety regulations. The Emergency Order also requires that all Class III crude oil shipments be designated as Packing Group I or II, thereby requiring the use of a more robust tank car. Packing Group III, a lower risk designation, will not be accepted, until further notice.

Shippers are required to use nine hazard classes as a guide to properly classify their hazardous materials. Proper classification will ensure that the material is placed in the proper package and that the risk is accurately communicated to emergency responders. Shipping crude oil—or any hazardous material—without proper testing and classification could result in material being shipped in containers that are not designed to safely store it, or could lead first responders to follow the wrong protocol when responding to a spill.

Rail safety is a national priority, and DOT continues to work aggressively across multiple fronts to enforce its requirements and reduce risks regarding the safe transport of all materials. PHMSA and the Federal Railroad Administration have issued several safety advisories related to the safe transport of crude oil by rail, including the recent January 2 Safety Alert and is currently engaged in the ongoing rulemaking to improve the design of the DOT 111 tank car. In August 2013, PHMSA and FRA launched Operation Classification in the Bakken Shale region to verify that crude oil was being properly classified and announced the first proposed fines associated with that ongoing investigation last month. Additional activities include unannounced spot inspections, data collection, and sampling at strategic locations that service crude oil.

(*Env. Res. Ctr.* – 3/3/14)

COURT STRIKES DOWN STREAM-DUMPING RULE

Recently, a federal court struck down a controversial rule that opened up Appalachia's streams and waterways to toxic dumping from destructive mountaintop removal mining operations.

Numerous national and Appalachian environmental and community groups challenged the midnight rule from 2008, which repealed a longstanding stream protection—a “buffer zone” of protection from mining activities and dumping around waterways. Earthjustice, on behalf of Coal River Mountain Watch, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Kentucky Waterways Alliance, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, Statewide Organizing For Community Empowerment, Sierra Club, Southern Appalachian Mountain Stewards, Waterkeeper Alliance, and West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, and together with co-counsel at Appalachian Mountain Advocates, the Appalachian Citizens Law Center, and Sierra Club, brought one of the legal challenges to the 2008 rule, arguing that the rule unlawfully weakened protection for vital water resources.

Before the rule eliminated the “stream buffer zone,” this safeguard stood for decades in order to protect American waterways from the type of extreme destruction and obliteration that is now being caused by mountaintop removal mining. Mountaintop removal mining has buried an estimated 2,400 miles of Appalachian streams and polluted many more miles of waterways.

The US District Court for the District of Columbia struck down the rule because it violated the Endangered Species Act.

(*Env. Res. Ctr.* – 2/24/14)

DUKE ENERGY ANNOUNCES COAL ASH CLEANUP

At RT Review Press Time, Duke Energy announced a major, multi-billion dollar cleanup of legacy wet coal ash disposal sites in North Carolina. Remaining active plants with wet slurry ash management systems were also to be phased out.

(*Wall Street Journal* – 4-23-14)

EPA SETS CLEANER FUEL AND CAR STANDARDS

EPA recently finalized emission standards for cars and gasoline that the Agency says will significantly reduce harmful pollution and prevent thousands of premature deaths and illnesses, while also enabling efficiency improvements in the cars and trucks we drive. These cleaner fuel and car standards a component of the administration's national

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program for clean cars and trucks. According to EPA, once fully in place, the standards will help avoid up to 2,000 premature deaths per year and 50,000 cases of respiratory ailments in children.

The final fuel standards will reduce gasoline sulfur levels by more than 60%—down from 30 to 10 parts per million (ppm) in 2017. Reducing sulfur in gasoline enables vehicle emission control technologies to perform more efficiently. New low-sulfur gas will provide significant and immediate health benefits because every gas-powered vehicle on the road built prior to these standards will run cleaner—cutting smog-forming NOx emissions by 260,000 tons in 2018.

The Tier 3 standards cut tailpipe pollution where people live and breathe—reducing harmful emissions along the streets and roadways that run through our neighborhoods and near our children's schools. By 2018, EPA estimates the cleaner fuels and cars program will annually prevent between 225 and 610 premature deaths, significantly reduce ambient concentrations of ozone and reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by about 260,000 tons. That is about 10% of emissions from on-highway vehicles, with those reductions reaching 25% (330,000 tons) by 2030.

By 2030, EPA estimates that up to 2,000 premature deaths, 50,000 cases of respiratory ailments in children, 2,200 hospital admissions and asthma-related emergency room visits, and 1.4 million lost school days, work days and days when activities would be restricted due to air pollution. Total health-related benefits in 2030 will be between \$6.7 and \$19 billion annually. The program will also reduce exposure to pollution near roads. More than 50 million people live, work, or go to school in close proximity to high-traffic roadways, and the average American spends more than one hour traveling along roads each day.

The final standards are expected to provide up to 13 dollars in health benefits for every dollar spent to meet the standards, more than was estimated for the proposal. The sulfur standards will cost less than a penny per gallon of gasoline on average once the standards are fully in place. The vehicle standards will have an average cost of about \$72 per vehicle in 2025. The standards support efforts by states to reduce harmful levels of smog and soot and aids their ability to attain and maintain science-based national ambient air

FEDERAL REGULATORY UPDATES (Continued)

quality standards to protect public health, while also providing flexibilities for small businesses, including hardship provisions and additional lead time for compliance.

(*Env. Res. Ctr. 3/10/14*)

NATIONAL MINING ASSOCIATION ON STORMWATER PERMITS

The National Mining Association commented in December 2013 on Clean Water Act permits, as follows:

- It is improper for EPA to impose requirements from the 2012 Construction General Permit (“CGP”) upon Sectors G, H, and J facilities. All phases of mining operations have long been subject to both applicable mining effluent limitations guidelines (“ELGs”) and mining-specific provisions in prior MSGPs. The requirements in the CGP (which was extensively revised to incorporate requirements for the Construction and Development ELGs), by contrast, were developed without regard to the unique nature of mining operations. EPA should not substitute existing mining-specific requirements with one-size-fits-all requirements.

- By adding provisions stating that the MSGP only covers discharges that are expressly authorized under the permit, EPA has unduly narrowed the scope of the Clean Water Act’s permit shield provision under Section 402(k). Such limitations are contrary to well established judicial and administrative precedents.

- EPA should not finalize the proposed provision governing discharges to federal CERCLA sites. EPA lacks authority under the Clean Water Act to impose this new requirement. Moreover, EPA has not articulated a sound scientific or policy rationale to support this requirement.

- The proposed corrective action deadlines are not reasonable. EPA should retain the existing deadlines from the 2008 MSGP. Additionally, EPA should remove the overly broad definition of “Corrective Action” from Appendix A of the MSGP.

- EPA has not sufficiently analyzed the potential costs of compliance and economic impacts. In particular, EPA has not considered the costs of mandating mining facilities to comply with requirements from the 2012 CGP that were developed without consideration of the unique nature of mining activities and related stormwater discharges.

- The proposed deadlines for ensuring uninterrupted coverage under the new permit may be unworkable in some instances.

Stormwater discharge permitting is complicated and improvements are funding source limited. We will keep you informed in

the RT Review on stormwater permitting developments.

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-Gary Brown

WET WEATHER PARTNERSHIP

The Wet Weather Partnership (WWP) has asked EPA to change its practice of imposing stipulated penalties on public utilities for routine sewer overflows during the implementation of wet weather control programs.

WWP members have been forced into federal consent decrees to implement long-term wet weather overflow control programs. These programs are massive in cost and scope. For most communities, they are the largest public works project in history. Unfortunately, one aspect of these decrees is stipulated penalties for routine sewer overflows while the control program is being implemented.

Reasons for this request are:

- The stipulated penalties impose unnecessary financial burdens on communities which are already stressed trying to implement the largest public works project/program in their histories. This would be challenging enough in any economic time, nevertheless as we struggle to pull out of the deepest depression in almost 80 years. Moreover, water, sewer and stormwater rates have outpaced real income growth for several decades.

- This is financially and politically untenable – yet almost every Clean Water Act consent decree condemns the community to decades more of rate increases outpacing income growth. Stipulated penalties unnecessarily add to these enormous and unprecedented unfunded federal mandates.

- Beyond the direct financial impact that stipulated penalties impose on struggling communities are the often greater “soft” costs of documenting and demonstrating to EPA that the cause of such wet weather overflows are beyond the community’s control. Communities do not want to be fined for events which are beyond their control.

- If a sewer system can only handle a five-year storm without overflowing, then in our view it makes no sense whatsoever to fine a community when that sewer predictably overflows in a storm larger than a five-year event, while the community is diligently implementing a control program to provide additional capacity. Until the control program is implemented, the pipes are only so big and can only handle so much flow. Imposing stipulated penalties makes no sense, is punitive, and deprives the community of funds which should be put into the sewer overflow remedy.

- There are several hundred sewer overflow-related consent decrees in effect nationwide. These decrees almost always impose a

penalty upfront (sometimes millions of dollars) as well as require the implementation of the largest public works project in each community’s history in accordance with a schedule that is typically less than 20 years.

- Stipulated penalties for routine wet weather overflows that will persist while the control program is being implemented serve no legitimate public purpose. They provide no incentive to increase the pace of construction, because approved work schedules typically are set aggressively at or near the limit of the community’s financial resources.

- Agency guidance on drafting consent decrees recognizes that stipulated penalties should be limited to address violations of a consent decree’s compliance milestones and performance requirements.

- Our request that EPA stop seeking stipulated penalties for routine overflows would not preclude EPA from seeking penalties for overflows that are not routine. In a circumstance where a community is materially negligent or has a spill with non-routine impacts (e.g., fish kill), we understand that EPA may find it appropriate to impose stipulated penalties.

- Unfair and unwarranted stipulated penalties for routine overflows, which occur during implementation of massive unfunded federal sewer overflow control mandates, is contrary to the public interest.

EPA MAY EXPAND TRI REPORTING TO MORE INDUSTRIES

In support of the goal of providing comprehensive toxic chemical release and other waste management information to the public, including citizens of communities surrounding covered facilities, EPA is considering expanding the scope of industry sectors covered by Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) section 313, also known as the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). As originally enacted, EPCRA 313 applied only to the manufacturing industry sectors, i.e., sectors in Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes 20 through 39.

The statute, however, also allows the EPA Administrator to add sectors to TRI to the extent that doing so is relevant to the purposes of EPCRA 313. Under this authority, the EPA in 1997 added seven additional industry sectors to the list of sectors covered by TRI. This proposal, which is expected to be published before the end of this year, may add or expand coverage to a range of industry sectors, including: Iron Ore Mining, Phosphate Mining, Solid Waste Combustors and Incinerators, Large Dry Cleaning, Petroleum Bulk Storage, and Steam Generation from Coal and/or Oil.

(*Environmental Resource Center – 3/24/14*)

FEDERAL REGULATORY UPDATES (Continued)

OSHA'S CRYSTALLINE SILICA PROPOSAL OPPOSED BY CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY COALITION

The Construction Industry Safety Coalition, which represents 25 different construction trade associations, believes that the proposed new Silica Rule is significantly flawed, and will do little to improve workplace health or safety. Specifically, it was concluded by the coalition that the proposed Rule sets a silica exposure standard that cannot be accurately measured or protected against with existing equipment.

Furthermore, the group believes there are rulemaking data errors that undermine many of the Rule's basic assumptions.

It is further stated that commercially available dust collection technology is not capable by itself of protecting workers from the Rule's new Silica exposure limit. It is stated also that the rulemaking process mistakenly omitted 1.5 million construction workers from its assessment of the size of the affected workforce.

(Construction Equipment Guide – 3-12-14)

EPA FINALIZES CONSTRUCTION – EFFLUENT LIMITATION GUIDELINE

EPA finalized its Construction Effluent Limitation Guideline, as published in the March 6th Federal Register. A controversial Turbidity Limit, which was challenged by the construction industry as not being properly calculated, was not in the Rule.

The Rule, does however, give new authority to environmental regulators, to take certain action, if there are problems with turbidity, as caused by erosion or scour, near a construction stormwater discharge.

The regulatory revisions, as published, resolve a lawsuit in the US Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit. The lawsuit included such groups as the Wisconsin Builders Association, The National Association of Home Builders, and the Utility Water Act Group.

There is increasing consensus, and even an admission in Washington, that the nation's Stormwater Regulatory program does not have sufficient funding and/or other resources to continue forward using a "command and control" approach. Given the recent rulemaking, it is acknowledged that using Non-Point Source Best Management Practices could be difficult, in terms of showing compliance if there is not a "point source" discharge. Adding to the uncertainty is that EPA has reserved the right to designate construction locations as being "point sources", if turbidity is found coming from an individual site.

Call Josh Hagadorn or Gary Brown at RT Environmental Services, at 800-725-0593, for more information.

FEDERAL AIR EMISSION STANDARDS FOR INDUSTRIAL BOILERS

If you have an industrial, commercial, or institutional boiler, you may be affected by

an upcoming deadline for EPA's new regulations that regulate hazardous air pollutant emissions. 40 CFR 63 Subpart JJJJJ regulates HAP emissions from boilers for facilities that are **not major sources** (less than 10 tons per year of HAP emissions) but does not apply to gas-fired boilers.

Regulated facilities were already required to submit an Initial Notification to EPA. This notification should be submitted as soon as possible if you have not yet done so.

Regulated facilities with existing boilers had until **March 21, 2014** to comply with the applicable provisions of the rule. Depending on the age and size of your boiler and what fuels you are combusting, you may need to comply with some of a variety of requirements including periodic maintenance and tune-ups, one-time energy assessment, emission limitations, and fuel analyses. Regulated facilities will also be required to submit a Notification of Compliance Status to EPA which is generally due by **July 19, 2014**.

A separate rule exists for boilers and process heaters at **major sources** of HAP (40 CFR 63 Subpart DDDDD). The rule contains many similar requirements and the compliance deadline will generally be in January 2016 for existing units.

If you have any questions or require assistance with this matter, please contact Lawrence Bily at 610-265-1510 x 236 or by email at lbily@rtenv.com or Gary Brown at 610-265-1510 or by email at: gbrown@rtenv.com.

RECORD ENVIRONMENTAL SETTLEMENT AFTER COURT DECISION INCLUDES GLOUCESTER CITY SITE – CORPORATIONS CAN'T SHIFT ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITIES TO AVOID CLEANUP OF THEIR SITES

Anadarko Petroleum bought Tronox, Inc., a spinoff of Kerr-McGee in 2006. Kerr McGee had shifted claims on thousands of toxic sites to Tronox. Kerr-McGee kept its valuable oil and gas assets.

"Kerr-McGee's businesses all over this country left significant, lasting environmental damage in their wake," said Deputy Attorney General James Cole. "It tried to shed its responsibility for this environmental damage and stick the United States with the huge cleanup bill."

The settlement releases Anadarko from all claims against Kerr-McGee. "This settlement...eliminates the uncertainty this dispute has created, and the proceeds will fund the remediation and cleanup of the legacy environmental liabilities," said Anadarko CEO Al Walker.

The settlement funds will be paid into a trust that covers cleanup of sites across 22 states and the Navajo Nation.

As part of the settlement, the EPA will get about \$224 million for cleanup of radiation contamination related to a Gloucester City and Camden City Superfund site known as the Welsbach & General

Gas mantle site.

The site, added to the Superfund list in 1996, includes two former gas mantle manufacturing sites along the Delaware River waterfront and numerous residential properties in Gloucester City and Camden. Radioactive thorium was used to make the mantles glow brighter. Some of the waste from the process contained radioactive elements, and it was used as fill throughout the two cities according to the EPA.

So far, EPA has removed more than 200,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and building materials from more than 140 properties in the Gloucester City and Camden, including homes, a swim club, a ballfield and the site of a future school. It has investigated more than 900 properties.

A U.S. bankruptcy judge in New York in December found that Kerr-McGee had improperly shifted its environmental liabilities to Tronox and should pay between \$5.15 billion and 14.2 billion, plus attorney's fees. \$5.15 Billion was the final settlement.

(Excerpts from Philadelphia Inquirer – Sandy Bauers and Eric Tucker and Dina Capiello – Associated Press – 4/4-14)

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

SEA OTTERS NOW RECOVERED AFTER 1989 EXXON VALDEZ SPILL

A federal study of Prince William Sound sea otters affected by crude oil spilled from the Exxon Valdez has concluded that the marine mammals have returned to pre-spill numbers a quarter century after the disaster.

Sea otters feed on clams. Crude oil from the spill remained in sediment years after the spill and likely contributed to a delay in sea otter recovery, said lead author and research biologist Brenda Ballachey.

“One of the lessons we can take from this is that the chronic effects of oil in the environment can persist for decades,” Ms. Ballachey said Friday.

The 987-foot Exxon Valdez, carrying more than 53 million gallons of Alaska north Slope crude oil, strayed from shipping lanes on March 24, 1989, and struck Bligh Reef.

The damaged supertanker leaked 10.8 million gallons. Crude oil flowed southwest along near-shore waters all the way to Kodiak Island.

Responders recovered nearly 1,000 seal otter carcasses from the entire spill area.

The estimated number of immediate deaths attributed to the spill ranged from fewer than a thousand to 3,000, Ms. Ballachey said.

(Wall Street Journal, 3/1/14)

BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT TO DETERMINE IMPACTS OF SELENIUM POLLUTION FROM COAL ASH COMPLETED IN LAKE SUTTON NORTH CAROLINA

The Southern Environmental Law Center released a biological assessment prepared by A. Dennis Lemly, Ph.D. of Lexington, NC.

Key findings of the study are:

- The occurrence of spinal, craniofacial, and other skeletal abnormalities in combination with elevated tissue levels of selenium confirms that teratogenic selenium poisoning is taking place in the community of Lake Sutton.

- The types of deformities seen are classic biomarkers of selenium toxicity (Lemly 1993, 2002a, 2002b, Janz et al. 2010).

- The response of fish in terms of expressed frequency of abnormalities is consistent with the differential sensitivity of fish to selenium toxicity, with centrarchids (bluegill/Lepomis, crappie, bass) being among the most sensitive and typically exhibiting the most deformities (Lemly 1993).

- The losses taking place each year in the Lake Sutton fishery due to coal ash impacts on the blue gill/Lepomis species group alone are substantial and important ecologically and economically.

- Negative impacts on the fishery, recreational anglers, and subsistence fishermen

would be expected to persist for 46 years.

- The results of this investigation present a stark contrast to a recent conclusion on fish community health made by Progress Energy (2012) “no deformities were observed or reported from the lake during 2011.

- The comment in the Progress Energy report reveals no scientifically valid information about what is actually happening with respect to selenium-induced deformities and associated population-level impacts in Lake Sutton.

- The monitoring data from the Progress Energy reports combined with toxicological assessment from the present study confirm that current standards do not protect fish from selenium poisoning in Lake Sutton.

- The measured average waterborne concentration of selenium in Lake Sutton was 3.5, 3.1 and 2.7 ug/L in 2009, 2010 and 2011, which is well below the EPA national and NC state criterion of 5 ug/L.

- However, markedly elevated selenium levels were present in the fish in 2013.

- These toxic impacts resulted from approximately 2.7 ug/l waterborne selenium.

- Biological/toxicological assessment of the Lake Sutton fishery suggest that an ecologically appropriate standard should be in the 1.5-2.0 ug/l range, as has been recommended in the scientific literature (e.g. Peterson and Nebeker 1992, Lemly and Skorupa 2007).

NEW GREEN GUIDE FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AVAILABLE FROM PARTNERSHIP FOR DELAWARE ESTUARY

The Partnership for the Delaware Estuary has available a Green Guide for Property Management to help large property owners identify innovative green projects, which can reduce water pollution. There are many creative ideas, including ways to complete plantings, and to change building and maintenance practices, some of which can reduce costs, as compared to conventional construction. Historically, large properties were designed with inlets and underground stormwater piping, which can be expensive to clean out. However, at some sites, simple grassed swales can be less expensive to maintain, and there are significant water quality improvements. For a copy of the Green Guide for Property Management, go to http://www.delawareestuary.org/pdf/pwd_green_guide.pdf.

NEW REFERENCE GUIDE TO TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR MINING-INFLUENCED WATER (EPA 542-R-14-001)

This report highlights select mining-influenced water (MIW) treatment technologies

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

- Sea Otters Recovered, pg. 7
- Mining-Influenced Water Reference Guide, pg. 7
- Pesticide Spray Drift, pg. 7
- Ohio Background Metal Study, pg. 7
- North Carolina Coal Ash Study, pg. 7

used or piloted as part of remediation efforts at mine sites. It is intended to provide information on treatment technologies for MIW to federal, state and local regulators, site owners and operators, consultants, and other stakeholders. Included in the report are short descriptions of treatment technologies and information on the contaminants treated, pre-treatment requirements, long-term maintenance needs, performance, and costs. Sample sites illustrate considerations associated with selecting a technology. Website links and sources for more information on each topic are also included (March 2014, 94 pages). View or download at <http://clu-in.org/tech-pubs.htm>.

EPA SCREEN FINDS PESTICIDE SPRAY DRIFT VOLATILIZATION RISKS

EPA released a guidance assessing bystanders risks for volatilization of pesticides and excess volatilization risks and were found. Environmentalists have been raising the issue, so it is anticipated that “spray drift” will receive EPA attention going forward. For more information go to <http://www.epa.gov/opp00001/about/inthe-works/volatilization.htm>.

EPA REGION 1 IS FORCING STORMWATER RETROFITS

EPA Region 1 is continuing to push industries into certain “stormwater retrofits” where sites contribute more than a de minimis amount of pollution to the watershed from runoff. Other EPA Regions are not doing this but there has been a continuing push in New England by the Conservation Law Foundation, among others groups. Stormwater and the practicality of regulating stormwater is receiving increased national attention, so it will be interesting to see how the Stormwater Regulatory Program being undertaken by EPA continues in New England.

OHIO CONTINUES BACKGROUND METAL STUDY

The Ohio EPA is continuing its well-respected program to determine “soil background concentrations”, which is an important part of the state’s Voluntary Cleanup Program. The most recent report released is on Lucas County, and information on representative background concentrations of metals in Lucas County can be found on the OEPA Web Page.

PA UPDATES

PADEP UPDATES GUIDANCE ON STORAGE TANK MODIFICATION AND MAINTENANCE ISSUES

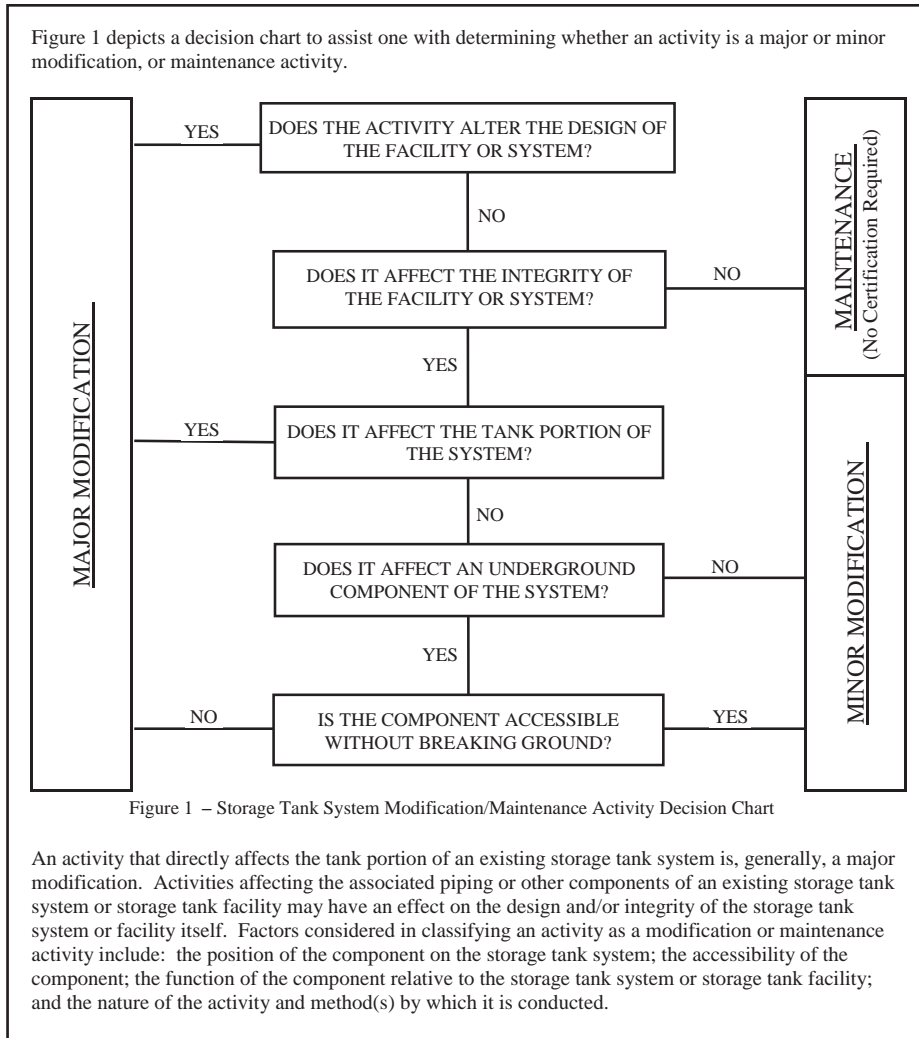
DEP updated Guidance on storage tank modification and maintenance issues, on March 29th. The Guidance specifies the classification of various storage tank system modification and maintenance activities, and when Certified Installers and Inspectors, are and are not required.

Included in the Guidance are definitions including that for “Major Modifications”, “Minor

Modifications”, and what a storage tank facilities and storage tank systems, are and are not. In addition, there is a chart, which helps assist in determining, whether or not a modification is major or minor. There are also diagrams which show where piping is and is not regulated, and, how maintenance activities can and cannot be conducted. We are pleased to show the “modifications” diagrams.

In addition to applying to underground storage systems, there are parts of the changes which

apply to above-ground storage tank systems. A comment and response document is also included with the Guidance, which can be found at <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-12006>. For more information on the new Guidance, you can call Gary Brown at 800-725-0593 x 234.



WASTEWATER PRODUCES HEAT AND POWER IN PHILADELPHIA

The Philadelphia Water Department has implemented innovative technology, to produce heat and power from biogas, which is 63% Methane. Christopher Crockett, the well-respected Water Department Deputy Commissioner for Planning and Environmental Services in Philadelphia, likens the process undertaken to that of human stomach, because microbes digest solid matter in the sewage, which comes into one of the Philadelphia Water Department’s major treatment plants.

The new technology has been installed along I-95, near Castor Avenue. The City partnered with Ameresco, a Massachusetts-based company,

which specializes in energy efficiency. The project also qualifies for Investment Tax Credit, and financing for the project, came from the Bank of America. Accolades for the project have come from the Water Environment Research Foundation. At the Castor Avenue/Northeast Wastewater Treatment Plant, the process captures more than 80% of the available energy for heat and electricity, and the City has an ultimate goal of using energy and biogas such that the major wastewater treatment facility becomes a “Net Zero” facility.

Philadelphia Water Commissioner Howard Neukrug, commented that the wastewater management industry is starting to call the innovative units “Water Resource Recovery Facilities”.

In addition, at the City’s Southeast Wastewater Treatment Plant, a system was recently installed to recover heat in the sewage stream.

(Excerpts By Sandy Bauers, Philadelphia Inquirer, 1/21/2014)

RT salutes the City of Philadelphia, and particularly, Mr. Crockett, who continues to guide the Water Department toward innovative technology, energy efficiency, and, as described in previous RT Review articles, an innovative and forward thinking stormwater program, to address combined sewer overflows. The new technology continues to help Philadelphia lead the way, environmentally, among major American cities.

-Gary Brown, P.E.

NJ UPDATES

MOLD BILL ADVANCES IN NEW JERSEY, WITHOUT EXPOSURE LIMITS

Legislation to establish standards for the inspection and cleanup of mold in residential buildings and school facilities has been approved by the New Jersey Senate. It is awaiting action by the New Jersey Assembly.

The measure would also establish a certification program for mold abatement and inspection workers. But language that would have established exposure limits has been dropped from this latest version.

“Within six months after the effective date of this act, the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), in consultation with the Department of Health and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, shall adopt rules and regulations that establish procedures for the inspection, identification, and evaluation of the interior of residential buildings and school facilities for mold,” the bill states.

These procedures must be “based upon, but not limited to, industry standards and standards and guidelines developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.”

An earlier version of the bill also mandated “indoor standards for exposure limits to mold in residential buildings and school facilities that are protective of the public health and safety.” That language has now been omitted.

“Exposure to mold in the confines of a

home is a serious concern and unfortunately one may families have been left with in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy,” said Sen. Robert Singer, one of the sponsors of the bill. “By establishing these standards for mold inspection and remediation residents will be better protected from shoddy work and a nightmare of ill effects.”

The bill also requires mold abatement and inspection workers to be certified through programs established by the DCA.

“Locating and removing mold from a home is difficult work that needs to be done right the first time,” singer added.

The mold inspection certification program will have to require that inspectors for mold hazards have training and education in at least the following subject areas:

- (1) proper methods to identify the presence of mold consistent with the procedures developed by the state;
- (2) scientifically recognized procedures and new technologies for the collection of air and surface samples;
- (3) methods for the identification of locations of moisture infiltration to locate likely areas for mold infestation; and
- (4) all applicable State and federal regulations.

(Indoor Env. Connections – 1-20-14)

PAULSBORO PUTS POLLUTER ON NOTICE; NJDEP LIMIT PROPOSED

Paulsboro Mayor W. Jeffery Hamilton and the Borough Council have put Solvay

NJ UPDATES

- Record Settlement - Gloucester City and Camden Cleanup Site, pg. 6
- PFNA Limit Proposed by NJDEP, pg. 9

Specialty Polymers USA, LLC and its affiliates (Solvay) on notice that they must provide long-term protection for Paulsboro’s drinking water and natural resources or face the Borough in Federal Court.

“Despite more than twenty years of oversight by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP),” Mayor Hamilton said “toxic chemicals from Solvay’s West Deptford facility continue to taint Paulsboro’s drinking water supply as well as the sediments and waters of Mantua Creek and the Delaware River that adjoin Paulsboro.”

The Borough’s action responds to Solvay’s use and disposal of hazardous waste that has polluted groundwater and sediments in and around Paulsboro with a range of perfluorochemicals (PFCs), such as perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). These chemicals persist in the environment and bioaccumulate in the human bloodstream because they were specifically designed to be indestructible. NJDEP recently set a contaminant limit for PFNA,c9 of 0.02 ug/L.

(Paulsboro – 1-16-14)

RT ENERGY SERVICES

REMOTE SENSORS FAIL TO SPOT MANY OIL LEAKS

Energy and pipeline companies are touting that they use high tech sensors and remote monitoring systems to automatically alert engineers when a pipeline starts to leak oil. Unfortunately, according to a recent* Wall Street Journal article, most leaks usually aren’t discovered that way.

Four years of liquid pipeline accident records were recently reviewed, and in the overwhelming majority of pipeline, spills, ruptures and leaks were discovered by somebody near the accident site. More than 1,400 Accident Reports were reviewed, and one incident was particularly notable. A North Dakota farmer, last September, smelled crude when harvesting his wheat, and it was found that 20,000 barrels of oil had seeped from a Tesoro Logistics LP pipeline.

Some experts have considered that

pipelines are the safest way to move petroleum products, but trains are playing a bigger role in moving oil products as of late. Congress, in 2011, ordered the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to consider new regulations pertaining to leak detection systems. The Association of Oil Pipelines, an industry association, says detection systems have a good track record when it comes to major spills. However, a leak detection system, the same as underground storage tank systems, can’t detect leakage to a low level, so chronic low level leakage can sometimes go on for a long time and be suddenly discovered to have accumulated into a major release over time.

We at RT think the examination of leak detection technology, by the federal government could provide important information to the industry, as to what limitations there are with leak detection systems. As pipeline

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- Duke Energy Coal Ash Cleanup, pg. 6
- Remote Sensors and Oil Leaks, pg. 9

infrastructure ages, and as tank cars used on railroads hauling oil are being replaced, the correct leak detection systems along with GIS technology could serve to help minimize the extent of releases in the most environmentally sensitive areas. We hope that new detection technology evaluation information can be shared promptly as it becomes available, so that with the increases in the oil production and transportation market taking place in the United States, gas and petroleum industries can use the latest technology to be as environmentally friendly as possible.

-Justin Lauterbach, Q.E.P.

PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN NOTICES

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Final Technical Guidance on New Source Sampling Requirements for Surface Water Sources | December 16, 2013 |
| Final Technical Guidance on New Source Sampling Requirements for Groundwater Sources. | December 16, 2013 |
| Final Technical Guidance on New Source Sampling Requirements for Groundwater Sources under the Drinking Water Program. | December 16, 2013 |
| A notice of availability of General Permit PAG-06 related to discharges from petroleum product contaminated groundwater remediation systems. | December 23, 2013 |
| Standards and Guidelines for Identifying, Tracking and Resolving Violations for: Erosion and Sediment Control Program, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Construction Program, Dam Safety Program, Waterways Management Program. | December 23, 2013 |
| Extension of NPDES General Permit (PAG-04) for discharges from small flow treatment facilities and published notice of draft changes to NPDES General Permit (PAG-04) for discharges from small flow treatment facilities. | January 6, 2014 |
| Notice clarifying use of General Permit WMGR 97 for research and development of the beneficial use of municipal residual waste. | February 3, 2014 |
| Environmental Quality Board – approved a number of agenda items including final regulations setting new VOC emission limits on printing operations, a proposed rule updating Land Recycling Program regulations, acted to not approve a rulemaking petition to upgrade the Perkiomen Creek and Stony Run watersheds and heard a report on NPDES permit and administrative fees. | February 24, 2014 |
| Policy on Public Participation in the Permit Review Process | March 3, 2014 |
| Notice of four draft technical guidance for public comment: PA Function Based Aquatic Resource Compensation Protocol, Lacustrine Condition Level 2 Rapid Assessment Protocol, Riverine Condition Level 2 Rapid Assessment Protocol and a Wetland Condition Level 2 Rapid Assessment Protocol and Related Guidances. | March 10, 2014 |
| Notice of extending three NPDES general permits: Beneficial Use of Biosolids (PAG-08), Beneficial Use of Exceptional Quality Biosolids (PAG-07) and Beneficial Use of Residential Septage By Land Application (PAG-9) | March 10, 2014 |
| Final – Surface Mine Accident Investigations | March 17, 2014 |
| Storage Tank Modification and Maintenance Issues – This technical guidance document primarily assists certified tank installers in determining what constitutes modification and maintenance activities. | March 31, 2014 |
| Measurement and Reporting of Condensable Particulate Matter – final-form rulemaking is effective upon publication | April 12, 2014 |
| Final – Aquifer Testing Guidance for Public Water Systems. | April 14, 2014 |

RT'S SCOPE OF SERVICES

- Beneficial Use Approvals – Wastes and Residuals
- Air Permits
- Oil & Gas Permits
- Wetland Services
- Wastewater/Water
- Brownfields Redevelopment
- Stormwater
- Asbestos
- Lead Paint
- Expert Services
- Mold

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FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES
<http://www.epagov/homepage/fedrgrstr>

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Electric Utility Generating Units | (Federal Register – 1/8/14) |
| Federal Minor New Source Review Program | (Federal Register – 1/14/14) |
| Residential Heaters – Various Types | (Federal Register – 2/3/14) |
| Pesticides – Agricultural Worker Protection Standard Revisions | (Federal Register – 3/9/14) |
| Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule | (Federal Register – 3/10/14) |
| EPA's Report on the Environment | (Federal Register – 3/27/14) |
| Pittsburgh Air Quality Implementation Plan – CO | (Federal Register – 3/27/14) |
| Kraft Pulp Mills NSPS Review | (Federal Register – 4/4/14) |
| Air Quality Implementation Plan – Delaware Portion of Philadelphia – Wilmington / PA-NJ-DE Nonattainment Area | (Federal Register – 4/8/14) |
| Hazardous Waste Management | (Federal Register – 4/10/14) |
| Additions to List of Section 241.1 Categorical Non-waste Fuels | (Federal Register – 4/14/14) |
| Framework for Human Health Assessment to Inform Decisionmaking - Notice | (Federal Register – 4-15-14) |

DELAWARE RIVER WATERSHED TO BE TEST SITE FOR WATER-QUALITY PROJECTS

The William Penn Foundation is announced a massive effort to turn the Delaware River watershed into a lab for innovation - for investigating and determining how best to protect or restore water quality.

About \$35 million in grants mainly over the next three years - with the potential of nearly \$200 million more to follow in leveraged money - will fund the work that will protect more than 30,000 acres, implement more than 40 restoration projects, find solutions that can be replicated elsewhere, and follow through with years of data collection to quantify the effects.

The Philadelphia philanthropy termed the initiative an "unprecedented collaboration" bringing together 40-plus regional and national groups.

"This is one of the largest philanthropic investments in watersheds ever," said Peter Howell, executive vice president of the Open Space Institute, based in New York, which is managing the largest grant, \$10.2 million.

Much of it will be used for land conservation, and the institute is targeting projects where the funds can be matched 3-1, for an additional \$27 million worth of projects.

For the foundation, "it is among the largest if not the largest dedication of grants to one specific strategy," said its senior program officer for watershed protection, Andrew Johnson.

More important, he said, the grants are deliberately connected to one another. "We're lining them up so they have collective impact," he said. "We've created a framework that other funders will find useful to inform their own grant-making.

"We're trying to make opportunity happen."

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation will get \$7 million to "regrant" to groups that will plant trees, restore stream banks, help farmers incorporate better methods to reduce water pollution, and teach communities how to lessen or better manage storm water.

Amanda Bassow, director of the group's eastern partnership office, said she would be looking for matching grants from federal and other private sources to triple the pool of project money.

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University will get \$3.2 million to gather data on projects and their effects.

A large cadre of scientists will be pulling on hip boots and wading into streams to collect the baseline data that's often overlooked, and build from there. They'll be live-tweeting from the field and publishing in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

"It's really about telling the full story of what's happening in the basin and how the water quality is being affected by the work that's being done," said Roland Wall, the academy's senior director for environmental initiatives.

(By Sandy Bauers, Inquirer Staff Writer – 4/1/14)

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) has received a 3-year grant exceeding \$500,000 to support its leadership of one of the eight watershed clusters and to lead outreach and education efforts within that cluster. PEC will also be providing direct services to support the Friends of Poquessing, an all-volunteer group that focuses on a very small watershed that straddles Bucks (Bensalem), Montgomery (Southampton) and Philadelphia.

-Gary R. Brown, P.E.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

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- EPA Penalties Questioned - Wet Weather Partnership, pg. 5
- Construction Industry Effluent Limitations, pg. 6

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