



Citizens Advisory Council

to the Department of Environmental Protection

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October 29, 2002

The Honorable David E. Hess
Secretary
PA Department of Environmental Protection
16th Floor, Rachel Carson State Office Building
P. O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

Secretary David E. Hess:

The Citizens Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection was informed about the status of DEP's draft Anti-degradation Guidance document (Guidance) during an October 15 meeting of its Water Committee. Council's main concerns about the Guidance relate to: 1) the need for broader notification of all parties and open discussion on stream redesignations; and 2) the need for advance notice to stakeholders on permit application developments during various stages of the application process. We recognize the difficulties of and do not advocate requiring individual notification of each individual property owner, but believe that the public would be well served if additional methods of outreach were identified in the Guidance.

Council commends DEP's efforts in developing the Guidance, and we would like to see additional provisions for public notification and outreach included in the document.

Sincerely,

Burt A. Waite
Chairperson