

Citizens Advisory Council

to the Department of Environmental Protection

P.O. Box 8459 Rachel Carson State Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17105-8459 717-787-4527 Fax 717-772-2291 Please Note: Our New Fax Number is 717-787-2878

October 29, 2001

The Honorable Mary Ann Daily House of Representatives 408 South Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Daily:

The Citizens Advisory Council would like to reaffirm its support for the approach outlined in House Bill 1591 (PN 1945). This bill will help to protect the integrity of the Commonwealth's groundwater resources and offer an additional level of protection to our many citizens that rely on private well water supplies.

A properly constructed well is the first line of defense in protecting public health and the groundwater resources that we all rely upon. Establishing minimum, statewide water well construction, modification and closing standards and requiring training and licensing of water well drillers and contractors are important mechanisms in protecting groundwater quality, and fill critical gaps in existing requirements. In addition, the reporting requirements will help develop and maintain an accurate picture of groundwater use throughout the Commonwealth, and better enable future water resources management efforts.

We support and thank you for your efforts to protect groundwater and public health. We also commend you on your successful coalition building, as evidenced by the many endorsements for this legislation that you have already received. Please call Sue Wilson, Council's Executive Director, at (717) 787-4527 if you have any questions, or if we can provide any further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

David L. Strong

Chairperson

Cc . Wark Brown