## SUMMARY OF MAJOR COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE BOROUGH OF LANSDALE TO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NPDES RULES (CHAPTER 92a) March 15, 2010

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Note that additional issues are raised in Lansdale's full set of comments.

## **General Comments:**

Inadequate opportunity to comment and inadequate preamble descriptions of changes/impacts provided given the significant changes. Many sections now more stringent than federal law.

## **Definitions:**

- "Expanding Facility or Activity" is vague. It should be defined as that which will require a permit amendment or physical construction of expanded facilities.
- "Immediate" should be defined as no longer than 8 hours.
- "POTW" should include only sewers owned by the POTW and not the municipality itself.
- "Significant Biological Treatment" is vague and should be eliminated.

## **Other Comments:**

- §92a.3 incorporation of federal regulations language is vague and confusing.
- §92a.26 contains many vague new terms (e.g., "may result in ..", "have the potential to").
- §92a.28 and §92a.62 contain significantly higher fees that are arbitrary, without precedent or authority and will cause hardship. Lansdale will pay as much as the City of Philadelphia.
- §92a.41 contains an absolute ban on floating materials, oil, grease, etc. that will result in immediate and consistent violations by virtually all WWTPs.
- **§92a.47** contains significant changes to secondary treatment and new tertiary treatment tied to vague triggers, conflicts with other provisions of law/policies (e.g. blending/maximizing flow through plants during high flow), is more stringent than federal requirements, and will result in significant costs, particularly if applicability to CSOs is not clarified.
- §92a.51 —schedules of compliance should be allowed beyond 3 years, based on complexity/costs.
- §92a.54 denial of general permits should be immediately appealable.
- §92a.61 provides unfettered discretion to impose monitoring based on vague triggers and imposes new monitoring for influent that may be extremely costly to implement.
- §92a75 the provision eliminating the administrative extension of most permits based on factors beyond the permittees' control must be eliminated. It is also inconsistent with §92a7.