



April 9, 2026

Patrick L. Patterson

Regional Director
Southeast Regional Office
2 East Main Street
Norristown, PA 19401

RE: Response to April 9, 2026, Letter of Denial of Public Comment Extension for Bishop Tube Consent Decree

To Regional Director Patrick Patterson,

Your response letter dated April 9, 2026 denying any modification to the Bishop Tube Consent Decree Comment period and process should not have been addressed singularly to “Anneke van Rossum”. The letters to which you appear to be responding were signed by hundreds of invested and impacted individuals and organizations. These letters voice the shared concerns of all who have signed on regarding the highly deficient Bishop Tube Consent Decree comment process and deadline. The letters were developed collaboratively by a coalition of community members. It is offensive that you have addressed your response – denying every request made – to just “Anneke van Rossum” as though the letters were crafted, drafted and reflected the perspectives of a single individual or organization. The letters combined the shared concerns and text of all signatories. Anneke van Rossum was merely the conduit to deliver these letters to PADEP’s attention.

We write to request that the Bishop Tube Consent Decree public record be corrected, and to urge you to rewrite your response so it properly addresses the community and the signers as a collective. This letter should then be distributed via the PADEP listserv and placed on the PADEP Bishop Tube website.

People who helped to craft, sign and submit these letters have been deeply affected by the toxic contamination at the Bishop Tube site and PADEP’s abject failure to protect the community and our environment. Your decision to deny a full and fair comment opportunity impacts people's health, lives, their environment, and enjoyment of their community. It is disturbing that you would - once again – treat all involved in this situation with such disrespect and cavalier disregard.


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Once we have received a corrected response that is addressed to the community as a whole, we will forward your updated response to our community partners. But we will not share with them your initial disrespectful response in which you disregard them as signatories to the submitted requests for enhanced comment period and opportunity—they deserve better than that.

Signed,



Maya K. van Rossum
the Delaware Riverkeeper
Delaware Riverkeeper Network



Anneke L.W. van Rossum
Advocacy and Advancement Coordinator
Delaware Riverkeeper Network

cc: Senator Katie Muth
Office of Governor Josh Shapiro
Sam Robinson
Steve Brown, East Whiteland Township
Scott Lambert, Chair, East Whiteland Township
Peter Fixler, Vice Chair, East Whiteland Township
Clinton Smith, East Whiteland Township
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