

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD MEETING
March 10, 2026

VOTING MEMBERS AND/OR ALTERNATES PRESENT

Jessica Shirley, Chairperson, Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection
Max Schultz, alternate for Akbar Hossain, Secretary, Governor's Office of Policy and Planning
Greg Hostetter, alternate for Russell Redding, Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Melissa Wright, alternate for Frederick Siger, Secretary, Department of Community & Economic Development
Kristen Rodack, alternate for Dr. Debra Bogen, Secretary, Department of Health
Kristen Bentz, alternate for Nancy Walker, Secretary, Department of Labor and Industry
Shane Rice, alternate for Michael Carroll, Secretary, Department of Transportation
Heather Gahagan, alternate for Tim Schaeffer, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
Paul Lupo, alternate for Stephen Smith, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Game Commission
Andrea Lowery, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission
Regi Sam, alternate for Stephen DeFrank, Chair, Public Utility Commission
Matt Osenbach, alternate for Senator Gene Yaw, Senate Environmental Resources & Energy Committee
Emily Eyster, alternate for Senator Carolyn Comitta, Senate Environmental Resources & Energy Committee
Representative Greg Vitali, House Environmental and Natural Resource Protection Committee
Glendon King, alternate for Representative Martin Causer, House Energy Committee
Robert Barkanic, Citizens Advisory Council
Trisha Salvia, Citizens Advisory Council
John St. Clair, Citizens Advisory Council
Thaddeus Stevens, Citizens Advisory Council
John Walliser, Citizens Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STAFF PRESENT

Lauren Imgrund, Policy Director
Laura Griffin, Regulatory Coordinator
Laura Campbell, Regulatory Coordinator
Robert "Bo" Reiley, Bureau of Regulatory Counsel

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The hybrid meeting of the Environmental Quality Board (EQB or Board) was called to order by Chairperson Shirley at 9:00 a.m.

The Board considered its first item of business: approval of the December 9, 2025, EQB meeting minutes.

Max Schultz made a motion to adopt the December 9, 2025, EQB meeting minutes. Shane Rice seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board (19-0).

FINAL RULEMAKING: WATER QUALITY STANDARDS; CLASS A STREAM REDESIGNATIONS (25 Pa. Code Chapter 93) (#7-583)

Jill Whitcomb (Deputy Secretary for Water Programs) provided an overview of the final rulemaking. Josh Lookenbill (Program Manager, Bureau of Clean Water) and Michelle Moses (Assistant Director, Bureau of Regulatory Counsel) assisted with the presentation.

There was no discussion following the Department's presentation.

Max Schultz made a motion to adopt the final rulemaking. Emily Eyster seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the Board (15-4). Matt Osenbach, Glendon King, John St. Clair, and Thaddeus Stevens voted in opposition.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lauren Imgrund provided the following update on rulemaking petitions accepted for further evaluation by the Department.

- The Unconventional Gas Well Setbacks petition was accepted for study by the Board on December 9, 2025. The Department's programs and toxicologist are reviewing the 42 scientific studies included with the petition. The Bureau of Regulatory Counsel is working on the legal analysis. The Department's timeline for this petition is the end of the calendar year.
- The Determination of Attainable Bottom for Well Plugging petition was accepted for study by the Board on December 9, 2025. The Oil and Gas Management Program (Program) is evaluating options and developing concepts in response to this petition. The Department will meet with the Well Plugging Work Group to discuss the options developed by the Program. The Department will provide the Board with a report on proposals.
- The Onsite Processing of Fluids from Oil and Gas Operations petition was accepted for study by the Board on December 9, 2025. This petition is undergoing legal review.
- The Electronic Preparedness, Prevention and Contingency Plans at Well Sites petition was accepted for study by the Board on December 9, 2025. This petition is undergoing legal review.
- The Unconventional Gas Well Bonding was accepted for study by the Board on November 16, 2021. The Program has allocated funding in the 2025-26 budget for an actuarial study to identify adequate financial assurance for plugging unconventional wells.
- The Program to Limit Greenhouse Gas Emissions was accepted for study by the Board on April 16, 2019. The Department is identifying necessary updates to the draft report and supporting analysis. The draft report was completed prior to litigation indirectly related to this petition. Therefore, the petition was on hold until this time.

Glendon King asked for an update on revisions to the Board's petition policy. Lauren Imgrund replied that the Department met with the Citizens Advisory Council on January 13, 2026, to gather feedback. The Department is continuing to work on the update.

Laura Griffin provided the following regulatory update.

- The Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Fees proposed rulemaking was published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on November 1, 2025. Ten public comments were received, along with comments from IRRC.
- The Safe Drinking Water Revised Consumer Confidence Report Rule proposed rulemaking was published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on December 13, 2025. Four public comments were received, along with comments from IRRC.
- An advance notice of proposed rulemaking seeking comments on the Water Quality Standards – Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards (# 11) was published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on December 27, 2025. Ninety-eight public comments were received.

NEXT MEETING

Chairperson Shirley announced the next EQB meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 14, 2026.

ADJOURN

With no further business before the Board, Matt Osenbach moved to adjourn the meeting. Max Schultz seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board. The March 10, 2026, meeting of the Board was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.