



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029  
4/4/2007

Ms. Cathy Curran Myers  
Deputy Secretary for Water Management  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
Rachel Carson State Office Building  
P.O. Box 2063  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

Dear Ms. Myers:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to approve Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the *North Branch Bear Creek Watershed*, Butler County, submitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) dated March 28, 2007, and received by EPA for review and approval on March 28, 2007. The TMDLs were established and submitted in accordance with Sections 303(d)(1)(c) and 303(d)(2) of the Clean Water Act. The TMDLs were established to address impairments of water quality as identified in Pennsylvania's 1996, 1998, 2002, and 2004 Section 303(d) lists of impaired waters still needing TMDLs for acid mine drainage metals. A rationale of our approval is enclosed.

As you know, any new or revised National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits with applicable effluent limits must be consistent with the TMDL's wasteload allocation pursuant to 40 CFR §122.44(d)(1)(VII)(B).

Any such permit should be submitted to EPA for review consistent with our letter dated October 1, 1998. If you have further questions, please call me or have your staff contact Ms. Mary F. Beck, at (215) 814-3429.

Sincerely,

*Signed*

Jon M. Capacasa, Director  
Water Protection Division

Enclosure

cc: Fred Marrocco, DEP  
Kelly Burch, NWRO  
Javed I. Mirza, Knox DMO