



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029  
*April 4, 2005*

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

Dear Ms. Myers:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to approve Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for *Bens Creek Watershed, Cambria County*, received by EPA for review and approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) on March 9, 2005. 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 and 2002 Section 303(d) lists of impaired waters still needing TMDLs for acid mine drainage metals and pH. The TMDLs also address the 2002 Section 303(d) listings for siltation. A rationale of our approval is enclosed.

Following the approval of this TMDL, PADEP shall incorporate it into the state's Water Quality Management Plan pursuant to 40 CFR § 130.7(d)(2). 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  
Ken Bowman, DEP SWRO  
Joel Pontorero, Greensburg DMO