



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029  
7/10/2008

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), Region III, is pleased to approve the *Leatherwood Creek Watershed TMDL, Clarion County, For Acid Mine Drainage Affected Segments*, dated March 12, 2008, submitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and received by EPA for review and approval on March 14, 2008. 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 impairment of water quality as identified in Pennsylvania's 1996 Section 303(d) List of impaired waters requiring TMDLs for metals and other inorganics associated with abandoned mine drainage.

In accordance with Federal regulations at 40 CFR §130.7 and EPA policy, a TMDL must comply with the following requirements: (1) designed to attain and maintain the applicable water quality standards; (2) include a total allowable loading and as appropriate, wasteload allocations for point sources and load allocations for nonpoint sources; (3) consider the impacts of background pollutant contributions; (4) take critical stream conditions into account (the conditions when water quality is most likely to be violated); (5) consider seasonal variations; (6) include a margin of safety (which accounts for uncertainties in the relationship between pollutant loads and instream water quality); and (7) be subject to public participation. These TMDLs satisfied each of these requirements. In addition, the TMDLs considered reasonable assurance that the allocations assigned to the nonpoint sources can be reasonably met. A copy of EPA's Decision Rationale for approval of these TMDLs is included with this letter.

As you know, all new or revised National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits must be consistent with the TMDL wasteload allocation pursuant to 40 CFR §122.44 (d)(1)(vii)(B). Please submit all such permits to EPA for review as per EPA's letter dated September 29, 1998.



If you have further questions, please call me or have your staff contact Ms. Mary A. Kuo at (215) 814-5721.

Sincerely,

Signed

Jon M. Capacasa, Director  
Water Protection Division

Enclosure

cc: Bill Brown, DEP  
Kelly Burch, DEP NWRO

