

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

Mr. James M. Seif, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
Rachel Carson State Office Building  
400 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: Earlakill Run TMDL for sediments and phosphorus

Dear Mr. Seif:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region III, is pleased to approve the Earlakill Run Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), submitted to EPA by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) by letter dated March 2, 2001. The TMDL was established and submitted in accordance with Section 303(d)(1)(c) and (2) of the Clean Water Act. The TMDL was established to address impairment of water quality as identified in Pennsylvania's 1996 Section 303(d) list. Pennsylvania identifies the impairment for this water quality limited waterbody based on excess nutrients and sediments. Earlakill Run is located in Leabnon County, Pennsylvania.

In accordance with Federal regulations found in 40 CFR §130.7, a TMDL must: be designed to meet water quality standards; include, as appropriate, both wasteload allocations (WLA) from point sources and load allocations from non-point sources; consider the impacts of background pollutant contributions; take critical stream conditions into account (the conditions when water quality is most likely to be violated); consider seasonal variations; include a margin of safety (which accounts for any uncertainties in the relationship between pollutant loads and instream water quality); and be subject to public participation. The enclosure to this letter describes how the Ealakill Run TMDL satisfies each of these requirements.

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 Pollution 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 EPA's letter dated October 1, 1998. Please note that PADEP determined there are currently --/no permitted point source dischargers in the -- watershed. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me or have your staff contact Mr. Thomas Henry, the TMDL Program Manager, at (215) 814-5752.

Sincerely,

Rebecca W. Hanmer, Director  
Water Protection Division

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Lawrence Tropea, Jr., PADEP  
Mr. Terry Fabian, PADEP  
Mr. Fred Marrocco, PADEP  
Mr. Edward Brezina, PADEP