
WUC

Water Utility Council of the
PA-Section, American Water
Works Association (PA-AWWA)



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

From Milliron & Goodman Government Relations, LLC.

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*PA- Section, American Water Works Association
National Association of Water Companies
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Senate Majority Policy Committee to hold public hearing on environmental issues in Pen Argyl on July 9

Clean fill and regulated fill standards will be studied at an upcoming public hearing hosted by the Senate Majority Policy Committee on **Monday, July 9**, according to Chairman David G. Argall (R-Schuylkill/Berks).

The hearing, which is being held at the request of Senator Mario Scavello (R-Monroe/Northampton), will review the concerns of local residents and officials about the state's regulations for clean fill and regulated fill.

The various classifications of fill are based on the level of contaminants of the materials. For example, clean fill is typically comprised of soil, rock, stone, dredged material, used asphalt and brick, block or concrete from construction and demolition sites.

Northampton County's numerous abandoned slate quarries are prime dumping grounds for fill by both in-state and out-of-state entities.

"Many residents and elected officials in the region have raised concerns over the dumping of out-of-state fill coming to our area," Scavello said. "I share the same concern over both the volume of fill and the impact it has on the environment. This hearing will be key to fully evaluate the state's environmental standards to ensure our residents are protected."

The hearing will feature representatives from the Department of Environmental Protection, local elected officials, residents, business leaders and industry professionals. Representatives from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation have also been invited to testify.

"I commend Senator Scavello for drawing the attention of the Senate Majority Policy Committee to this key issue," Chairman Argall said. "We need to know why it's okay to dump this material in Pennsylvania and why it is not okay to dump in New York and New Jersey."

The hearing will start at 10 a.m. on Monday, July 9 at Wind Gap Middle School, 1620 Teels Road, Pen Argyl, PA. The public is invited to attend.

More information about the upcoming public hearing can be found at

<http://policy.pasenategop.com/070918/> or <http://www.senatorscavello.com/>.

Agenda

Watch Live

10:00 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Senator David G. Argall, Chairman, Senate Majority Policy Committee
- Senator Mario Scavello

10:10 a.m.

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

- [George Hartenstein](#), Deputy Secretary, Waste, Air, Radiation and Remediation
- Ramez Ziadeh, Acting Executive Deputy Secretary, Programs

10:30 a.m.

Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry

- [Kevin Sunday](#), Director, Government Affairs

10:45 a.m. Citizens Panel

- Ty Bartosh, Green Walk Trout Hatchery
- [Paul Smith](#), Ret. Director of Transportation & Logistics, Fortune 500 Companies

11:15 a.m. Industry Professionals

- Brian Hilliard, Valley Industrial Properties, LLC
- [Walter Hungarter](#), RT Environmental Services, Inc.
- John Tallerico, Barnsdale Associates

11:45 a.m. Local Elected Officials

- John Bermingham, Supervisor, Upper Mount Bethel Township
- David Due, Supervisor, Upper Mount Bethel Township
- Mike Harakal, Jr., Mayor, Whitehall Township
- [Barry Schweitzer](#), Council Member, Bangor Borough Member, Bangor Borough Authority

12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Written Testimony Submitted

- [Catherine Libertz](#), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Eric Andreus, Nestle Waters
- [John Kulak](#), resident

DEP to Host Live Webinar on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 to Discuss County-Level Planning to Improve Stream and River Health in Pennsylvania Communities in Chesapeake Bay Watershed

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will host a live webinar to discuss county-level participation in developing Phase 3 of Pennsylvania's Watershed Implementation plan to improve stream and river health to benefit local communities in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

The webinar, open to the public, will outline the overall approach to the local planning framework

and timeline. With the collaboration of stakeholders throughout the region, the planning goals are being developed at the county level.

Secretary Patrick McDonnell and DEP staff will discuss the overall framework of the plan and Lisa Schaefer, Director of Government Relations at the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania and member of the Phase 3 plan Steering Committee, will discuss the Community Clean Water Toolbox, a package of customized information to help counties with their planning efforts. Four counties are pilot-testing it this summer.

A federal mandate from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires Pennsylvania to reduce sediment and nutrient loads in streams and rivers in the watershed to meet specific goals by 2025.

A Q&A for accredited media will follow the presentations. [Registration](#) is required for the webinar.

WHAT: **Live Webinar:** County-Level Planning to Improve Stream and River Health in Pennsylvania Communities in Chesapeake Bay Watershed

WHEN: **Tuesday, July 10, 2018 10:00-11:00 AM**

Source: DEP Press Release, 7/5/2018

Boback Applauds Improvements to School Code, Repeats Need for Statewide Standards for Lead in School Drinking Water

Rep. Karen Boback (R- Lackawanna-Luzerne-Wyoming) commended the General Assembly for [adding language to encourage schools to test for lead](#) as part of the package of bills that made up the state budget. The particular budget bill ([House Bill 1448](#) – Public School Code – see pg. 6, line 17) that included this language is known as the Public School Code.

Included in the legislation is language that requires schools to supply safe water if testing concludes that the supply is found unsuitable.

NOTE: The language in House Bill 1448 reads as follows:

Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, and every school year thereafter, school facilities where children attend school may be tested for lead levels in the drinking water and any school facility whose testing shows lead levels in excess of the maximum contaminant level goal or milligrams per liter as set by the USEPA's national primary drinking water regulations shall immediately implement a plan to ensure no child or adult is exposed to lead contamination drinking water and that alternative sources of drinking water are made available.

If a school entity does not test lead levels, the school entity shall, at a public meeting, discuss lead issues in the school facilities.

If a test of lead levels is elevated the level shall be reported to the Department of Education and posted on the Department's publicly accessible internet website.

"What little data we have indicates lead is a pervasive problem in Pennsylvania schools' drinking water. As a former educator, this is a step in the right direction - it begins a conversation we very much need to have," said Boback. "But, it must only be the beginning. Every school child deserves access to clean drinking water. That is indisputable."

Schools aren't required to test for lead under this legislation. However, if a school decides to forgo lead testing, officials must discuss the issue at a public meeting.

Boback has been an advocate for lead testing in water. [House Bill 2025](#), which she authored, would require regular lead testing for all school drinking water and public notification of all test results, and set a maximum allowable level in the water of 5 parts per billion.

"This standard," said Stephanie Wein of PennEnvironment, which has worked with the representative on this legislation, "would make Pennsylvania a leader for protecting students from lead in their water."

Needing 102 votes to pass the state House of Representatives, House Bill 2025 already has overwhelming bipartisan support with over 70 co-sponsors.

"The lead testing language in this code bill is not a substitute for comprehensive legislation to keep our children safe," said Boback. "I urge the legislature to take up my bill, which would ensure schools test for lead, disclose to parents what they find, and if indicated, remove lead from school water."

House Bill 2025 has been referred to the House Education Committee.

Source: Representative Karen Boback Press Release, 7/5/2018

DEP – Availability of the Non-Regulatory Agenda

The Department of Environmental Protection made available the non-regulatory agenda for July. According to the DEP, the agenda serves as a guide and resource to the regulated community, the public, department staff and members of the department's advisory committees regarding the focus of the department's policy development for the coming year and the documents include policies and technical guidance documents that provide directives, guidance or other relevant compliance-related information.

The Agenda is available on the Department's [eLibrary website](#) (select "Publications," then "Office of Policy," then "Non-Regulatory Agenda").

Questions regarding the Agenda should be directed to Abbey Cadden, Technical Guidance Coordinator for Department of Environmental Protection, at (717) 783-8727 or raethepolicyoffice@pa.gov.

Source: Pennsylvania Bulletin, 7/7/2018

Senator Williams Applauds Signing of Clean Slate Legislation

Last week, Senator Anthony H. Williams (D-Philadelphia) joined Governor Tom Wolf, lawmakers, and advocates for the signing of [House Bill 1419](#), also known as the **Clean Slate bill**.

"There are too many people who have done their time and have worked to become fully integrated members of the community but are held back due to past convictions," said Williams. "I applaud that we are realizing that people who have paid their debt to society deserve the chance to prove they are ready to contribute to their communities."

The legislation allows for an individual to petition for court records to be sealed after 10 years of living conviction free. The primary goal of Clean Slate is to ensure that those who have been convicted for minor offenses in the past, and have served sentence, to no longer be plagued in the job and housing market by their mistakes.

Williams was the prime sponsor of the Senate's version of House Bill 1419. He says he looks forward to seeing the improved lives of those who are re-entering society after serving their time and seeing how recidivism is reduced by providing the opportunity for individuals to enter the workforce.

"Clean Slate is a great step forward in criminal justice reform and the movement to reduce recidivism," he said. "We must continue to support initiatives that help those who have returned to our communities find a path to jobs, housing, and community engagement without the stigma of their past."

Source: Senator Williams Press Release, 7/3/2018

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