Susquehanna River Basin Commission

§ 801.7 Water quality.

(a) The signatory States have the primary responsibility in the basin for water quality management and control. However, protection of the water resources of the basin from pollution, and actions by the signatory parties to achieve abatement and control of pollution are important to the Commission.

(b) The signatory parties have adopted water quality standards for the intra and interstate waters of the basin. Initially these standards will serve as the basis for the Commission’s water quality program in the comprehensive plan.

(c) The Commission’s role in water quality management and control essentially will be one of coordination to ensure water quality standards are adequate to protect broad public water resources interests, and that uniform policies and enforcement are affected by the signatories.

(d) The Commission shall:

(1) Encourage and coordinate efforts of the signatory parties to prevent, reduce, control, and eliminate water pollution and to maintain water quality in accordance with established standards.

(2) Promote government and private sector implementation of maximum basin to provide water of suitable quality for a wide array of public and private purposes into the foreseeable future should be possible.

(b) The Commission may regulate the withdrawal of waters of the basin not regulated by the signatory parties for domestic, municipal, industrial, and agricultural uses if regulation is considered essential to further the aims set forth in the comprehensive plan.

(c) The Commission shall study the basin’s water supply needs, the potential surface and ground water resources, and the interrelationships to meet these needs through existing and new facilities and projects. Efficient use and management of existing facilities with emphasis on the full utilization of known technology will be explored in meeting water supply needs for domestic, municipal, agricultural, and industrial water supply before new programs or projects are approved.

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(d) The Commission shall:

(1) Encourage and coordinate efforts of the signatory parties to prevent, reduce, control, and eliminate water pollution and to maintain water quality in accordance with established standards.

(2) Promote government and private sector implementation of maximum
practical use of waste utilization and treatment technology.

(3) Promote and encourage State and local governments and industry to plan for regional waste water treatment and management.

(4) In cooperation with appropriate agencies of the signatory parties, make periodic inspections to ascertain the state of compliance with appropriate water quality standards, and as needed establish and operate water quality monitoring stations.

[38 FR 4662, Feb. 20, 1973, as amended at 38 FR 6386, Mar. 9, 1973]

§ 801.8 Flood plain management and protection.

(a) Periodic inundation of lands along waterways has not discouraged development of flood hazards areas. Major floods cause loss of life, extensive damages, and other conditions not in the public interest. A balanced flood plain management and protection program is needed to reduce the flood hazard to a minimum.

(b) The Commission may regulate the use of flood prone lands with approval of the appropriate signatory party, to safeguard public health, welfare, safety and property, and to sustain economic development.

(c) To foster sound flood plain controls, as an essential part of water resources management, the Commission shall:

(1) Encourage and coordinate the efforts of the signatory parties to control modification of the Susquehanna River and its tributaries by encroachment.

(2) Plan and promote implementation of projects and programs of a structural and nonstructural nature for the protection of flood plains subject to frequent flooding.

(3) Assist in the study and classification of flood prone lands to ascertain the relative risk of flooding, and establish standards for flood plain management.

(4) Promote the use of flood insurance by helping localities qualify for the national program.

(5) Assist in the development of a modern flood forecasting and warning system.

§ 801.9 Watershed management.

(a) The character, extent, and quality of water resources of a given watershed are strongly affected by the land use practices within that watershed. Accordingly the Commission will maintain close liaison with Federal, State, and local highway, mining, soil, forest, fish and wildlife, and recreation agencies and with government agencies dealing with urban and residential development programs.

(b) The Commission shall:

(1) Promote sound practices of watershed management including soil and water conservation measures, land restoration and rehabilitation, erosion control, forest management, improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, and land use in highway, urban, and residential development as related to water resources.

§ 801.10 Recreation.

(a) The use of surface water resources of the basin for recreation purposes is extensive. Swimming, fishing, boating, and other water oriented activities have regional and local economic benefit as well as recreational benefit.

(b) The Commission shall cooperate with public and private agencies in the planning and development of water-related recreation and fish and wildlife programs and projects within the basin and shall:

(1) Promote public access to and recreational use of existing and future public water areas.

(2) Promote recreational use of public water supply reservoirs and lakes where adequate treatment of water is provided, and/or where recreational uses are compatible with primary project purposes.

(3) Include recreation as a purpose where feasible, in multipurpose water use planning of reservoirs and other water bodies.

§ 801.11 Public values.

(a) The basin has many points of archaeological and historic interest, and is well endowed with vistas of aesthetic significance.

(b) The Commission fully recognizes that the value of these areas cannot be measured simply in economic terms and will strive to preserve and promote