



**CHARTIERS CREEK
WATERSHED
ASSOCIATION**

***Our Watershed —
Our Future***

100 West Beau Street, Suite 602, Washington, PA 15301
Phone: 724-746-1299 E-mail: wccd@cobweb.net Fax: 724-223-4682

September 15, 2004

Mr. Thomas McLaughlin
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Facilities Decommissioning Section
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738

Dear Mr. McLaughlin,

In light of the NRC's recent hearing on the decommissioning of the MolyCorp site in Canton Township near Washington, PA, we are writing to inform you of monitoring data obtained this summer from a site on Chartiers Creek close to the Jessop Place Exit from I-70. Our water quality score indicates poor-to-fair water quality. Our monitor noted particularly that she found high readings of sulfur, iron, chlorine and conductivity. The readings may indicate that sediments from the former settling ponds are getting into Chartiers Creek.

The following results of chemical tests may be of interest:

- Alkalinity— lower than any site tested downstream;
- pH and specific conductivity—both high (highest of 14 sites tested);
- Iron—also highest of any site tested;
- Sulfur—high, 80+ mg/l

Please see the enclosure for details of chemical testing. No macroinvertebrates were collected at this site, as the water sample was taken from a pipe that discharges runoff from the industrial site.

The Chartiers Creek Watershed Association has conducted a regular monitoring program at three sites for several years. Our data are recorded in the database of the Washington County Watershed Alliance, which is maintained by the Watershed Specialist for the Washington County Conservation District. (See enclosure for address and phone number.)

Of course, the Chartiers Creek Watershed Association is concerned about the water quality of Chartiers Creek. We would like to suggest that additional testing be done to obtain more accurate data than our test kit allows, in order to address any water quality problems that may originate on the site and discharge into Chartiers Creek.

For your information, Association members voted at a regular meeting to send this letter. We would appreciate a written response.

Thank you for your consideration and attention.

Very truly yours,

Joan R. Jessen, secretary

CHARTIERS CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

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**Test data is recorded at the Washington County Conservation District's
Ag Office by Laurie Popeck, Watershed Specialist.**

Address:

**2800 North Main Street, PO Box 329
Meadowlands, PA 15347**

Telephone: 724-222-3060x117

Fax: 724-228-9125

CHEMICAL RESULTS FROM WATER TESTING SITE 5B

Temperature — in Centigrade	20.8 degrees
Ph — 1-14 SU	8.8
Specific Conductivity — μ S	1302
Dissolved Oxygen — 0-15 mg/L	7.4
Alkalinity — 5-100 mg/L, Calcium carbonate	80
Acidity — 10-400 mg/L, Calcium carbonate	NA
Iron — 0-3 mg/L	2.32
Manganese — 0-20 mg/L	0.3
Aluminum — 0-.8 mg/L	0.003
Sulfate — 0-70 mg/L	80+
Nitrate — 0-30 mg/L	5.3
Phosphate — 0-2.5 mg/L	.79
Chloride — 10-10,000 mg/L	131