



Sept 29, 2017

Secretary Garvin
Kevin Coyle, Principal Planner
Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control
State of Delaware
89 Kings Highway
Dover, DE 19901

Re: Stakeholder Involvement in Drafting of HB190 Regulations

Secretary Garvin and Mr. Coyle:

The recent passage of HB190 and subsequent drafting of implementing regulations requires a robust public and stakeholder process, as the amendments in HB190 stand to drastically affect public health and the environment. Stakeholder involvement is particularly crucial because of the fact that stakeholders were not engaged in the process of drafting HB190.

Stakeholders must be engaged early, including in the workshop process starting on October 1, 2017, and in the biennial reports prepared by DNREC. Additionally, meetings with stakeholders should be held during which interested and affected parties can provide input on the regulations to be drafted.

A robust stakeholder process that includes environmental and public health advocates will help ensure that the spirit and letter of the Coastal Zone Act remains, such as the Act's main purposes of ensuring the cleanup of contaminated sites in the Coastal Zone, and that grandfathered sites within the Coastal Zone do not contribute any additional pollution or contamination to these ecologically important areas. HB190 will likely result in the expansion of industry in the Coastal Zone, and a thorough and fair public process will help protect the purpose of the Coastal Zone Act.

Additionally, HB190's requirement of biennial reports from DNREC to the General Assembly should be expanded to include reporting on the environmental and economic benefits of the Coastal Zone Act's protection of the Coastal Zone, and should not focus solely on the economic benefits of Conversion Permits under HB190.

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Finally, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network should be among those stakeholders involved in the development of regulations related to HB190.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maya K. van Rossum". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Maya K. van Rossum
the Delaware Riverkeeper