

**Division of Water and Waste Management
Water Quality Standards Program
Requirements Governing Water Quality Standards Rule**

This rule revision commenced with a public notice for the rule on May 30, 2025 followed by a public hearing held by the Department of Environmental Protection (herein referred to as WVDEP) on July 8, 2025 and acceptance of written comments through July 15, 2025. The public comment period was subsequently extended through July 21, 2025.

<https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/ruleview.aspx?document=18278&KeyWord=>

The proposed revisions to the WV legislative rule “Requirements Governing Water Quality Standards,” 47CSR2. WVDEP proposed the following substantive revisions are as follows (summarized):

- Revision of whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 µg/g to 8.5 µg/g for sturgeon waters.
- Revision of whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 µg/g to 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters.
- Revision of Appendix E Table 1 footnote g to specify sturgeon water classification in West Virginia.

Written comments were provided by:

1. United States Environmental Protection Agency
2. West Virginia Manufacturers Association
3. Metallurgical Coal Producers Association
4. West Virginia Rivers Coalition
5. West Virginia Coal Association
6. WV Rivers’ Action Alert tool
 - a. Form Letter
 - b. Substantive Additions to Form Letters

Six members of the public attended the public hearing on July 8, 2025. Two individuals asked to speak at the hearing. A summary written and oral comments and responses are provided below. The original comments received, and the public hearing transcript are provided as part of the formal rulemaking record.

The following sections are included:

- A. Notices to Public**
- B. DEP Response to Comments**
- C. Written & Oral Comments**

A. Notices to Public

On May 30, 2025, a public notice of WV Water Quality Standards (WQS) 2025 proposed rule changes was shared on the WVDEP public listserv at:

<https://apps.dep.wv.gov/listserv/?window=archive&listID=1>.

Notice of Public Comment Period was also filed with the West Virginia Secretary of State (SOS) on May 30, 2025.

<https://apps.sos.wv.gov/aclaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=58140&Format=PDF>

These notices gave a brief summary of the proposed rule changes, provided access to the proposed rule, communicated a public hearing to be held virtually at 6:00 PM on July 8, 2025 via Google Meet and notified the public that the comment period would be open until 5:00 PM on July 15, 2025.

After becoming aware that the notification of the public comment period had not appeared in the West Virginia State Register until June 6, 2025, WVDEP extended the public comment period until 5:00 PM on July 21, 2025 in order to meet the 45-day comment period requirement.

This extension was communicated via Listserv and the SOS website:

<https://apps.dep.wv.gov/listserv/?window=archive&listID=1>

<https://apps.sos.wv.gov/aclaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=58324&Format=PDF>

B. WVDEP Response to Comments

WVDEP appreciates every person and organization who participated in this public process to review and revise WV legislative rule “Requirements Governing Water Quality Standards.”

Written Comments

Commenter 1: United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Comment 1: In the amended West Virginia WQS regulation provided with the notice, in the amended selenium criterion at W. Va. C.S.R. §47-2-8.27.1 in Appendix E, Table 1, the magnitudes for the non-sturgeon waters and sturgeon waters are inverted. This would need to be corrected should these values be finalized.

WVDEP Response 1: WVDEP concurs that the magnitudes shown in this table are inverted. This will be revised to 8.5 µg/g for sturgeon waters and 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters as you have stated in your comment and as was stated in the Notice of Public Comment Period filed with the West Virginia Secretary of State on May 30, 2025.

Comment 2: The public notice indicates that the 8.5 µg/g whole-body fish tissue element for the protection of sturgeon waters is based on the whole-body fish tissue element of the EPA’s current Clean Water Act (CWA) 304(a) recommended selenium criterion [see 40 C.F.R. § 131.11(b)(1)(i)], but does not provide detail on how WVDEP derived the revised whole body fish tissue element of 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters other than to note that the amendment is based upon the EPA’s Recalculation Procedures. Please confirm that West Virginia followed the species deletion process where the white sturgeon [*Acipenser transmontanus*] was removed from the list of most sensitive taxa and then the fish whole-body tissue concentration was recalculated based on the remaining species.

WVDEP Response 2: WVDEP’s calculation for the current whole-body tissue criterion was based on the four most sensitive fish species identified which included white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*) (see Table 1 below). White sturgeon is non-native and not found in West

Virginia. Only two other members of the family Acipenseridae, are potentially found in West Virginia. According to WVDNR, the shovelnose sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus platorynchus*) is extremely rare, transient, and likely extirpated from the state. Lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) are potentially found in the Ohio River but are transient fish with large home ranges and are extremely rare.

Table 1 The Lowest Four Reproductive-Effect Whole-Body GMCVs used in whole-body fish tissue criterion calculation (current standard)

Relative Sensitivity Rank	Genus	GMCV (mg Se/kg dw whole-body)
4	<i>Salmo</i>	13.2
3	<i>Oncorhynchus</i>	11.6
2	<i>Lepomis</i>	9.9
1	<i>Acipenser</i>	9.2

In waters where white sturgeon, or any other species for which it can serve as a surrogate, are not present this species may be removed from the criterion calculation using EPA's Revised Deletion Process for the Site-Specific Recalculation Procedure for Aquatic Life Criteria (EPA-823-R-13-001). Because the criterion is based on the four most sensitive species, when white sturgeon is removed from the calculation, the next most sensitive species *Esox* (pike) is introduced into the calculation. Because pike is found in West Virginia, this is an appropriate species to use in the calculation.

Table 2 The Lowest Four Reproductive-Effect Whole-Body GMCVs with *Acipenser* removed (DEP proposed for non-sturgeon waters)

Relative Sensitivity Rank	Genus	GMCV (mg Se/kg dw whole-body)
4	<i>Esox</i>	14.2
3	<i>Salmo</i>	13.2
2	<i>Oncorhynchus</i>	11.6
1	<i>Lepomis</i>	9.9

When the calculation is then performed, the whole-body fish tissue criterion becomes 9.5 µg/g as illustrated below.

Calculation of Whole Body for Non-Sturgeon Waters

Table 3 Data for calculation of criterion

Rank	Genus	GMCV	ln GMCV	(ln GMCV) ²	P=(R/N+1)	√P
1	<i>Lepomis</i>	9.90	2.2925	5.2556	0.0667	0.2583
2	<i>Oncorhynchus</i>	11.6	2.451	6.0074	0.1333	0.3651
3	<i>Salmo</i>	13.2	2.5802	6.6574	0.2	0.4472
4	<i>Esox</i>	14.20	2.6532	7.0395	0.2667	0.5164
Sum		9.9769	24.9599	0.6667	1.587	

$$N = 14 \quad (\text{number of genera included in the database}) \quad S_2 = \frac{\sum(\ln \text{GMCV})^2 - (\sum \ln \text{GMCV})^2/4}{\sum P - (\sum \sqrt{P})^2/4}$$

$$S_2 = 2.0311$$

$$S = 1.4252$$

$$L = [\sum \ln \text{GMCV} - S(\sum \sqrt{P})]/4$$

$$L = 1.9288$$

$$A = S(\sqrt{0.05}) + L$$

$$A = 2.2475$$

$$\text{FCV} = e^A$$

FCV = 9.5 µg/g (dw) whole-body tissue

Table 4 Total dataset from which four most sensitive species were selected

Genus	GMCV (WB Se mg/kg dw)	Rank
Acipenser	9.2	
Pogonichthys	>12.34	
Pimephales	51.4	9
Catostomus	>10.2	
Xyrauchen	>42	
Esox	14.2	4
Oncorhynchus	11.6	2
Salvelinus	34.9	7
Salmo	13.2	3
Cyprinidon	22.6	6
Gambusia	>13.5	
Morone	<16.2	
Lepomis	9.9	1
Micropterus	18.5	5
Brachionus	42.36	8

Comment 3: The EPA Recommends that WVDEP Consider Revising All Four Elements of West Virginia's Selenium Criterion (Sturgeon Waters). Although WVDEP's public notice characterizes the whole-body tissue concentration as a "criterion", it is more precisely identified as one element of the selenium criterion. The EPA has several concerns regarding the

amendment of only the whole-body fish tissue element of West Virginia's selenium water quality criterion. Primarily, the EPA is concerned because, as explained below, all of the criterion elements should be protective of the reproductive effects (i.e., the egg/ovary element of the criterion) in freshwater fish. The EPA requests that WV describe how their framework meets statutory and regulatory requirements to protect applicable designated uses based on a sound scientific rationale pursuant to CWA section 303(c)(2)(A) and 40 C.F.R. §131.11(a)(1). EPA seeks to understand how West Virginia's criterion elements are protective of the reproductive effects in freshwater fish using the egg/ovary element as the most representative. The EPA recommends that, for sturgeon waters, WVDEP consider revising its selenium criterion to be wholly consistent with the EPA's 304(a) selenium criterion recommendation, including updates to the egg/ovary, fish muscle tissue and water column elements [see 40 C.F.R. § 131.11(b)(1)(i)]. The EPA requests that WVDEP provide an analysis, using scientifically defensible methods, demonstrating that all four elements of its criterion for sturgeon waters are protective of reproductive effects in freshwater fish.

WVDEP Response 3: The following excerpt is from EPA's June 24, 2016 approval of West Virginia's current selenium criteria (bold emphasis added).

"The fish tissue-based elements are given precedence over WV's unrevised water column element, and the egg-ovary criterion element is given precedence over whole-body criterion elements or fish muscle criterion element. As indicated above, the EPA's draft recommended chronic selenium criterion was developed to address the reproductive effects of selenium concentrations on fish species, and all of the other selenium criterion elements in the draft document are derived from the egg-ovary criterion element. Therefore, EPA's draft recommendation also indicates that the criterion should be adopted in a manner that explicitly affirms the primacy of the whole-body or muscle elements over water column element, and the egg-ovary element over any other element. **EPA is approving WV's adoption of the primacy of the egg-ovary element over the other criterion elements, and the primacy of fish tissue over the water column element** (WV's regulation revision allows an exception in cases when new inputs of selenium occur in waters previously unimpacted by selenium. In these cases, until equilibrium is reached between water column and fish tissue, the water column values take precedence over fish tissue values)."

In this approval, EPA recognizes the primacy of fish tissue over water column. WVDEP does not seek revision of West Virginia's current EPA approved water column criterion however does seek to revise the whole-body fish tissue criterion for sturgeon waters which takes precedence over the water column criterion as acknowledged by EPA. The proposed whole-body fish tissue criterion for sturgeon waters is consistent with EPA's whole-body fish tissue recommendation.

Comment 4: The EPA Recommends that WVDEP Consider Revising All Elements of West Virginia's Selenium Criterion (Non-Sturgeon Waters). Similar to the EPA's above comments regarding revising all elements of West Virginia's existing selenium criterion, the EPA is recommending that WVDEP consider revising all elements of West Virginia's selenium criterion (non-sturgeon waters) consistent with the EPA's criterion recommendation format and recalculation guidance. The EPA seeks to understand how WVDEP recalculated the whole-body tissue element of 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters [see 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.6(c) & 131.11(b)(ii)].

The EPA is also interested in understanding how West Virginia intends to apply the current Fish Egg/Ovary, Fish Muscle and water column elements and how the recalculated fish whole-body tissue element will be protective of the existing Fish Egg/Ovary concentration of 15.8 µg/g.

WVDEP Response 4: The proposed whole-body fish tissue criterion for non-sturgeon waters is consistent with EPA's whole-body fish tissue recommendation recalculated using EPA's Revised Delction Process for the Site-Specific Recalculation Procedure for Aquatic Life Criteria (EPA-823-R-13-001). Please also see WVDEP Responses 2 and 3.

Comment 5: The EPA is also interested in what data WVDEP relied on to distinguish between sturgeon waters and non-sturgeon waters and any clarifications regarding the extent of sturgeon waters in West Virginia, including waters that may be used for spawning and waters that have been known to support sturgeon at any time since November 28, 1975 and how the revised criterion will be protective of downstream waters that support sturgeon.

WVDEP Response 5: WVDEP's determination of the presence or absence of sturgeon in West Virginia waters is based upon surveys conducted by the WVDEP, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources (WVDNR) and fishing records from anglers. WVDNR has no substantial reports of sturgeon in any waterbodies of the state except the Ohio River. WVDNR attempted to establish sturgeon in the Kanawha River and Little Kanawha River, but efforts were unsuccessful and discontinued. There is no evidence of sturgeon occurring in the watersheds naturally or as a result of the stocking. A species account on the WVDNR webpage for shovelnose sturgeon (<https://wvdnr.gov/plants-animals/sportfish/shovelnose-sturgeon/>) states: "The shovelnose sturgeon was likely eliminated from West Virginia waters because of poor water quality and a changing riverscape habitat (channelization, increased removal from floodplain interaction, increased depth and sedimentation), though some transient individuals could still occur." The account also indicates that shovelnose sturgeon are intolerant of reservoirs and restricted by dams. The Kanawha River dam system was first established in the late 1800's to early 1900's. Even so, out of an abundance of caution, the Kanawha River up to the Kanawha Falls was included in the water quality standards as a "sturgeon water."

Comment 6: Adopt Protective Water Column Elements. When WVDEP revised its selenium criterion in 2016, it maintained its selenium chronic water quality criterion of 5 µg/L. Since that time, the EPA has recommended that WVDEP adopt the water column elements of the EPA's recommended selenium criterion (lentic, lotic and intermittent exposure). Alternately, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.11(b)(1)(ii) and (iii), WVDEP could provide scientifically defensible data to demonstrate that 5 µg/L is protective of the egg-ovary element of West Virginia's selenium criterion. In a letter dated June 8, 2016, WVDEP discussed a two-year study that was underway and intended to demonstrate that 5 µg/L is protective of aquatic life in West Virginia. The EPA welcomes the opportunity to review that study. The EPA recommends that WVDEP either adopt the EPA recommended water column elements of the selenium criterion to ensure protection of aquatic organisms, provide a justification that demonstrates the continued use of 5 µg/L is protective of aquatic organisms, including reproductive effects, or adopt some other water column element such as one modified to reflect site-specific conditions (e.g., a bioaccumulation factor developed to reflect factors specific to West Virginia) [see 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.6(c); 131.11(a); 131.11(b)].

WVDEP Response 6: Thank you for your comment. WVDEP is not seeking to alter the approved water column selenium criterion of 5 µg/L at this time, but may consider this recommendation in the future.

Comment 7: The EPA Recommends that WVDEP Adopt a Performance-based Approach for Establishing Site-Specific Water Column Elements to Facilitate Development of Effluent Limitations Necessary to Meet Water Quality Standards for Selenium National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits must include effluent limitations necessary to meet water quality standards (water quality-based effluent limitations or WQBELs) [33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(b)(1)(C); 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)]. Development of WQBELs applicable water quality criterion is expressed in terms other than water column concentration, such as fish tissue. To facilitate implementation of West Virginia's selenium criterion, the EPA recommends that WVDEP consider adopting a performance-based approach for establishing site-specific water column elements of the selenium criterion. For an example of a performance-based approach for translating the selenium tissue criterion elements into site-specific water column criterion elements, WVDEP can refer to the method that EPA promulgated as part of the selenium criterion for California.

WVDEP Response 7: Thank you for your comment. WVDEP will consider this suggestion for future rule revisions.

Commenter 2 : West Virginia Manufacturers Association (WVMA)

Comment 8: The WVMA supports the WVDEP DWWM's revision of whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 g/g to 8.5 g/g for sturgeon waters and from 8.0 g/g to 9.5 g/g for non-sturgeon waters. This change reflects the reality of West Virginia's waters, the vast majority of which are not home to sturgeon. The WVMA applauds the WVDEP DWWM for its use of a reasonable and rational approach to the regulation of selenium in West Virginia rivers and streams.

WVDEP Response 8: Thank you for your comment and support of the proposed revisions.

Commenter 3: Metallurgical Coal Producers Association (MCPA)

Comment 9: EPA's 2016 national recommended criteria included white sturgeon in the criteria calculations. Since white sturgeon are not found in West Virginia, EPA has advised states that they may choose to exclude that species of fish from their own criteria calculations. MCPA understands that DEP proposes to do so here, resulting in revised criteria. This is consistent with the approach other states without sturgeon have taken, and we support DEP's proposal here. We encourage DEP to finalize the proposed amendments to 47 CSR 2 as soon as possible.

WVDEP Response 9: Thank you for your comment and support of the proposed revisions.

Commenter 4 : West Virginia Rivers Coalition (WVRC)

Comment 10: DEP's proposed revision has not undergone the normal process for rule change review by the Environmental Protection Advisory Council (EPAC). Instead, this was requested directly by the WV Coal Association in their letter to DEP dated August 16, 2024 and stems from a site-specific variance requested by Aracoma Coal Company and Highland Mining Company to allow more Se pollution in Dingess Run. We believe that EPAC review is important and necessary to revise water quality standards with sufficient public involvement and technical oversight. Moreover, state code (§22-1-9) provides that "the [DEP] secretary shall consider the

council's recommendations for rulemaking when developing agency rules to be submitted for legislative approval," yet this process was not followed in this case because EPAC members were not consulted.

WVDEP Response 10: Thank you for your comment. WVDEP concurs with the commenter regarding the EPAC consultation. The proposed changes will be the subject of discussion in the upcoming EPAC quarterly meeting. WVDEP will consider recommendations from EPAC and if appropriate will modify the proposed rule prior to the legislative rule making committee meeting.

Comment 11: The revised water quality standard would depend on the presence or absence of sturgeon, but this choice of focal species is arbitrary. The focus on sturgeon appears to stem from the coal industry's proposal for a Se variance in Dingess Run in which their numerical model to calculate selenium limits yielded an undesirable result (in their opinion) with the inclusion of sturgeon genus *Acipenser*. Instead, the applicants chose to consider sunfishes (genus *Lepomis*), non-native trout (genera *Oncorhynchus* and *Salmo*), and pike (genus *Esox*). Notably, however, they chose to exclude genera within the minnow and carp family (*Leuciscidae*) which includes many of the species that will be sampled for their assessments or black basses (genus *Micropterus*) which are of economic and cultural importance in WV fisheries. Conversely, rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) were included in the applicants' calculations, but these species do not occur in the vast majority of sites where Se fish tissue sampling will take place. The selection of focal species in this case therefore constitutes an arbitrary decision with significant impact for implementation of the revised standard.

WVDEP Response 11: Both West Virginia's current and proposed whole-body fish tissue criteria are based on the four identified most sensitive species. *Leuciscidae* was not included in the dataset however *Micropterus* was but it had a higher Genus Mean Chronic Value (GMCV) of (18.5 mg/Se/kg dw whole-body) than any of the four most sensitive species used in the calculation the greatest of which was *Esox* which had a GMCV of 14.2 mg/Se/kg dw whole-body. Therefore all four species used in the calculation of the proposed criterion were more sensitive than *Micropterus* resulting in a more stringent criterion than would have been calculated had *Micropterus* been included. Please also see WVDEP Response 2.

Comment 12: The focus on sturgeon also would be extremely difficult to implement because it would require their presence or absence to be known. However, these are migratory and long-lived species that often occur at low abundances and thus are inherently difficult to document. For instance, biologists with the WV Division of Natural Resources have attempted to restore shovelnose sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus platorynchus*) to the Kanawha River and Little Kanawha River, but it is unclear whether those efforts succeeded in establishing self-reproducing populations. If a sturgeon criterion is retained in the final rule, applicants would need to demonstrate their absence in order to apply the 9.5 µg/g criterion for large rivers that may potentially support this species. This could be done through eDNA sampling, occupancy modeling, or side-scan sonar techniques, and such steps would be necessary to implement the revised standard based on the presence or absence of sturgeon in WV waters.

WVDEP Response 12: The proposed revision defines sturgeon waters in footnote g to Appendix E Table 1 as the entire Ohio River mainstem and the Kanawha River mainstem extended upstream to the Kanawha Falls at rivermile 95.8. The reference to applicants in this comment is unclear because sturgeon waters are defined in the proposed revision. If, at any time, a water designated as a non-sturgeon water is found to contain or support naturally occurring

sturgeon the designation of that waterbody can be changed to sturgeon water and the appropriate selenium whole-body fish tissue criterion will apply. In addition, according to the WVDNR species account and communication with WVDNR fish biologists, the efforts to establish sturgeon in the Kanawha River and Little Kanawha River were unsuccessful.

Comment 13: The revised water quality standard would increase costs and logistical effort to implement because it would require additional fish to be collected and analyzed for each sample. For instance, prior research in the Guyandotte River basin demonstrates that higher mean selenium concentrations in fish communities contain more variation among individuals, and therefore more fish are needed to maintain statistical power while assessing compliance with a higher standard. Also, prior analysis of WVDEP data indicates that fish communities in WV rarely exceed the proposed standard of 9.5 µg/g Se, so the proposed water quality revision may be inapplicable to real-world conditions. This pattern may be in part due to increased mortality rates for populations exceeding measured Se concentrations. Such a weakened water quality standard therefore is unlikely to be protective of fish populations as required by aquatic life use designations across the state.

WVDEP Response 13: Regarding the number of fish to be collected for each sample, the proposed standard does not establish monitoring nor assessment methodologies. Regarding the protectiveness of the proposed criterion, the calculated whole-body fish tissue criterion is based on GMCVs for the identified most sensitive fish species in the dataset and is thereby designed to be protective of fish communities in West Virginia.

Commenter 5: West Virginia Coal Association

Comment 14: WVDEP proposes to revise the whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 µg/g to 8.5 µg/g for sturgeon waters and the whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 µg/g to 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters. WVCA supports the proposed revisions to the selenium criteria.

WVDEP Response 14: Thank you for your comment and support of the proposed revisions.

Commenter 6a: West Virginia Rivers' Action Alert tool

Commenters who did not deviate substantively from the template letter include:

Abigail Tyler, Adam Johnson, AJ cho, Aju James, Alan Asbury, Alanna Lowther-Smith, Ali Printz, Ally Beard, Amanda Gordon, Amber Yeager, Amy Grace, Amy Kobos, Andrea Chin, Angela Hoehne, Angela Mayle, Angie Dixon, Anita Hornor, Ann Cuppy, Ann darling, Ann Payne, Anna Cruikshank, April Woods, Ashley Copen, Ashley Hoffman, B. E., Barb Johnson, Becky Chandler, Bella Hubbard, Betsy Lawson, Bill Price, Brent Cayton, Brett Smith, Caephren McKenna, Callie Willis, Carina Chadwick, Carl Prellwitz, Carlos Arnold, Carmella Campione, Carole Williams, Carrie Gleason, Carrie Swank, Chantal Eldridge, Char Esser, Charles Brabec, Charles Rinear, Cheryl Brown, Christine Linton, Cindy Bodin, Clara Halfin, Connie Dale, Cor Carelsen, Courtney Franklin, Cynthia Bennett, Dan And Lilly Kittredge, Dan Crawford, Daphne Ashworth, Darlene Wolf, David Brisell, David Dougherty, David Maxfield, David Thompson, David Wendt, Dawn Weidner, Deann Darling, Deanna Thomas, Debbie Naeter, Deidra Smith, Dennis Maloney, Derek Benedict, Desirae Ellison, Diana Green, Diana

Greenhalgh, Diana Mullis, Diane Marks, Diane Quinlivan, Dominic Percopo, Dominique Edmondson, Donald Criss, Donald Mackler, Donna Martin, Donna Miller, Dorothy Lockett, Doug Krause, Drew Cardis, Ed Fiedler, Edie M Sadowski, Elaine Donovan, Elaine Komarow, Elizabeth Butler, Elizabeth Clark, Elizabeth Hastings, Elizabeth Hestick, Elizabeth Tuminski, Emily Dragon, Emma Hall, Erika Stokes, Erin Snook, Eva Icc, Francis Slider, Frank J Bryant, Frank Rodgers, Franklin Anderson, Gary Leventhal, Gene Kistler, George Bourlotos, Geraldine Card, Gerard Ridella, Glen Williams, Grace Ukoha, H Ande, Hannah Spencer, Harold Watson, Isaac Anderson, J J, Jackie Chambers, Jackie Gray, Jacqueline Mier, James Campbell, James Kirby, James Mulcare, James Roberts, James Stratman PhD, James Thoman, Jamie Burks, Jamie Green, Jan Hyer, Jane Lyon, Janeene Porcher, Janet Forman, Jared Cornelia, Jarrett Cloud, Jay Jordna, Jay Rowan, Jean Diamond, Jeffrey Gordon, Jennifer Baker, Jennifer Fisher, Jennifer Maurizzio, Jeremy Wenisch, Jerry Bowles, Jerry Mawhorter, Jessica Pate, Jim Maxwell, Jim Phillips, Joan Ward, Joanne Barrio, Jocelyn Parris, Jody Ross, Joe Tutt, Johanna Curry, John Dropp, John Dunn, John Harshbarger, John Jayne, John Savage, Jon Kiesling, Joyce Mast, Judith Clister, Judith Smallwood, Judith Underwood, Julie Griffith, Julie Martin, Justin Philipps, Karen Kindel, Karlette Peck, Kate Kenner, Kate Ruland, Kate Skolnick, Katelyn Westfall, Kathe Garbrick, Kathryn Martin, Katie Parker, Kay Hart, Kay Schultz, Kayla Whited, Ked Garden, Kelli Stotts, Kelly Weaver, Ken Gibb, Kerstin Sutton, Kevin Rolfes, Kimberly Pettit, Kimberly White, Kylee Heims, L Grecco, L Leon Okes, Laura Dickey, Laura Glenn, Laura Herndon, Lawrence Brown, Le R, Linda Ferland, Linda Hendrix, Linda Prostko, Linda Silversmith, Lisa Diehl, Lock Pampel-Montague, Loki Simmons, Lorenz Steininger, Lori Post, Lorraine Brabham, Louise Doucette, Lowell Hott, Lucinda Snow, Lynn Shoemaker, M Langelan, Madison Sharer, Marc and Alice Imlay, Margaret Guilfooy Tyler, Margaret Hutchison, Margaret Stange, Margarita Flener, Maria Louisc Morandi Long Zwicker, Maria Nasif, Mariah Clay, Marian Seena, Marjorie Laboy-Vagell, Mark Hollinrake, Mark Leeson, Mark Leonard, Martha Gorak, Martha Wine, Mary Lickert, Mary Mann, Marya Bradley, Maya Hoffmann, Meredith Taylor, Merri Morgan, Merrily Taylor, Meryl Pinque, Michael Meadows, Michael Ritchey, Michael Ross, Michael Turner, Micheal Erickson, Michele Bouchard, Mike McMillian, Mike Povroznik, Mindy Messerly, Miranda Brace, Montie VanNostrand, Monty Fowler, Morgan Boerum, Nancy Gowani, Nancy Harris, Natalie DeBoer, Noah Haydon, Pamyllie Greinke, Pat LaStrapes, Patrice Wallace, Patricia Rowell, Paul Baker, Paul Breitenbach, Paul Brown, Paul Hancock, Paul Moss, Paula Stahl, Penelope Gobar, Perry Gx, Perry Kendall, Phil White, Phillip Claxon, Phyllis Chavez, Preston White, Probyn Gregory, Rachel Fickey, Raquel Narvios, Raul Romero, Rebecca Romine, Rebekah Colours, Rebekkah Dick, Rhonda Green, Richard Brown, Richard Hanna, Rick Landenberger, Rina Sunar, Rita Glasscock, Robby Abou-Rizk, Robert A. Mertz, Robert Halfin, Robert Koch, Robert Moore, Robert Renfro, Robert Rutkowski, Roberta Moore, Robin Hamlin, Robyn Reichert, Ron Murrin, Ronnie Bolling, Ruth Swenson, Sabrina Midkiff, Sally Gagne, Sally Goodyear, Samantha Marco, Sara Postlethwaite, Sarah Cayton, Sarah Leming, Sarah Ravary, Scott Balderson, Sharon Longyear, Shirlene Harris, Sissie Summers, Sofia Montemayor-Thomas, Stacy Tritt, Stephanie Lowenhaupt, Stephanie Ragusa, Stephen Dutschke,

Steve Lucas, Steven Gunnoe, Steven M. Rosenberg, Steven Runfola, Sue Covello, Sue Nearing, Susan Daley, Susan Riker Kilgore, Susan Sauter, Tari Pantaleo, Tom Narvios, Terence Hero, Teresa A. Sopher, Teresa McBee, Terry Johnson, Terry Wolfe, Theresa Allen, Theresa Ernest, Thomas Ward, Todd Keffer, Tom Cullen, Tom Degen, Travis Collins, Vicki Williamson, Victoria Lyall and Virginie Bauer

West Virginia Rivers' Action Alert tool template

Comment 15: I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02). Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival. The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits. I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry. Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

WVDEP Response 15: In order to address this comment, it is necessary to explain how West Virginia's current whole body fish tissue selenium criterion was derived.

In May 2014 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a document entitled External Peer Review Draft Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criterion for Selenium - Freshwater (EPA 822-P-14-001) which contained a draft multi-tiered set of aquatic life selenium criteria. This set of criteria included not only a water column criterion but also included a fish tissue whole-body criterion, a fish muscle criterion and a fish tissue egg/ovary criterion. Recognizing the value of this multi-tiered approach criteria approach for protection of aquatic life, WVDEP pursued adoption of multi-tiered selenium criteria. EPA subsequently approved WVDEP's proposed selenium criteria by letter dated June 24, 2016.

Both EPA's and WVDEP's calculation for the whole-body tissue criterion was based on the four most sensitive fish species identified which included white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*). White sturgeon is non-native and not found in West Virginia. Only two other members of the family Acipenseridae, are potentially found in West Virginia. According to WVDNR, the shovelnose sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus*) is extremely rare, transient, and likely extirpated from the state due to poor water quality. Lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) are potentially found in the Ohio River but are transient fish with large home ranges and are extremely rare. It should be noted that this rule revision seeks to establish two whole-body fish tissue selenium criteria; one for non-sturgeon waters and one for sturgeon waters.

In waters where white sturgeon, or any other species for which it can serve as a surrogate, are not present this species may be removed from the criterion calculation using EPA's Revised Deletion Process for the Site-Specific Recalculation Procedure for Aquatic Life Criteria (EPA-823-R-13-001). Because the criterion is based on the four most sensitive species, when white sturgeon is removed from the calculation, the next most sensitive species *Esox* (pike) is introduced into the calculation. Although not native to the state, northern pike have been

established in some fisheries in West Virginia. When the calculation is performed using *Esox* in place of *Acipenser*, the whole-body fish tissue criterion becomes 9.5 µg/g (Please see Response 3). The proposed whole-body fish tissue selenium criteria are designed to be protective of West Virginia fish. The proposed criterion for sturgeon waters is fully consistent with the current criterion recommended by EPA and designed to be protective of aquatic life. The proposed criterion for non-sturgeon waters follows EPA's Site-Specific Recalculation Procedure for Aquatic Life Criteria and is designed to be protective of aquatic life (Please also see WVDEP Response 2).

Commenter 6b: West Virginia Rivers' Action Alert Tool

Commenters with additional comments

Marya Bradley

Comment 16: I am appalled that this is being proposed. I am stunned that we are being asked to embrace the suffering and death of wildlife and the poisoning of our water to accommodate the coal industry's request to loosen these limits and pretend that it is simply fine to allow ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. In disbelief and in the hope of reason, sanity and an ethical compass, I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Johanna Cursy

Comment 17: We need more protection for our water in this state- we do not have enough! Reducing the protections we already have, shouldn't even be entertained- represent the interest of the state- it's inhabitants, do not give short cuts that only serve to hurt us!

Diana Green

Comment 18: I am writing to express my very strong opposition to raising the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02). I speak from experience both as an angler who has observed first-hand the deformities in fish due to excessive selenium and as a former employee of an environmental consulting firm. Please listen to the scientists and NOT the polluters and their political hacks.

Kay Hart

Comment 19: Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways. Our bird population was drastically affected by DDT in water. Now you want to poison our fish and other organisms that live in our beautiful WV streams & River. Our animals need to be protected from toxins in our waters.

John Jayne

Comment 20: Even if selenium has no known immediate danger to humans, it might have long-term effects. And other pollutants released do make humans sick. We already have to pay an enormous amount for health care/insurance. Let's not compound the situation by polluting our air/water.

Jay Jordna

Comment 21: Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Not just harming stream environments, rumor of this could destroy our fishing and hunting tourism. The secondary harm to humans consuming hunted and fished affected wildlife could be devastating. West Virginia wants to be known for a clean, attractive environment for our mega tourism trade.

Mary Lickert

Comment 22: How about our health and tourism? The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to get sloppier on pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put us, tourism and wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits. You tell them to get it together!

Victoria Lyall

Comment 23: I am a native of WV and am horrified to hear that you are planning to allow MORE pollution in our beautiful state. It would be a horrible decision to increase the allowable amount of selenium in our water.

Jacqueline Mier

Comment 24: I volunteer weekly with the watershed group, Friends of Decker's Creek in Morgantown, WV. Being a resident of Mon County since 1978 I have seen and experienced firsthand the harm that raising the acidity levels of our rivers and streams can do to us, the fish, the life of WV rivers and streams. In the 70's, before raising standards on coal and industry run off, swimming in the rivers and lakes made my hair feel like straw. Now, with the dedicated help of the DEP and our many watershed groups in WV, my hair feels silky and soft. Their dedicated work brought life back to our rivers and streams. The return to cleaner rivers and streams has contributed to WV becoming known as a premier destination, not only for river and whitewater enthusiasts, but for family destinations. Our tourism is booming. Let's not undermine this new found economy with short sighted drop in water quality. Let's not go back to straw-like hair!!!

Ann Payne

Comment 25: You are a disgrace to allow money for the wealthy to further degrade our beautiful state and destroy the beauty and life that has thrived there for millenia. I don't know how you can live with yourself.

John Savage

Comment 26: Anything that can cause damage to any part of the food chain is dangerous to humans either by transference or by limiting access to foods. In these days of food and healthcare insecurity this could hurt many West Virginians.

Sissie Summers

Comment 27: I'm writing to oppose the raising the limit on selenium pollution in our WV waters/streams. With most folks in DEP and other state agencies at the will and pleasure to the

administration, it is a long shot to go against the grain but I encourage opposition to increasing the limits.

Stacy Tritt

Comment 28: As a United Methodist Pastor, I would remind my Christian siblings that God charges humanity with being good stewards of creation in the book of Genesis. Raising the allowable amount of selenium pollution in our water ways will hurt all of God's creation.

Jim Phillips

Comment 29: When will you folks use common sense instead of going for common cents. Actually, it's dollars you are after. We all need clean water. I assume that includes you. Can we add selenium to your water supply and see how you like it? Your money is not that good.

WVDEP Response to Comments 16-29:

Thank you for your comments. WVDEP recognizes your commitment to water quality as evidenced in these comments. WVDEP also recognizes and appreciates the importance of tourism to our state. The proposed criterion for sturgeon waters is consistent with the current science-based criterion recommended by EPA and is designed to be protective of aquatic life. The proposed criterion for non-sturgeon waters follows EPA's Site-Specific Recalculation Procedure for Aquatic Life Criteria and is also designed to be protective of aquatic life. For more information regarding how these criteria were derived, Please see WVDEP Response 2.

Regarding the effects of selenium to human health, it should be noted that EPA's current recommended human health selenium criterion for consumption of organisms is 4,200 µg/l in the water column which is considerably higher than the water column criterion for selenium in West Virginia. The WVDEP partners with the WV Department of Health and WVDNR on the West Virginia Sport Fish Consumption Advisory Committee. That committee considers selenium concentrations in game fish collected from known fisheries and makes recommendations to restrict meals if necessary. Altering the whole body concentration to 9.5 µg/l for non-sturgeon waters would not impact the advisory meal restrictions. To learn more visit: <https://oehs.wvdhhr.org/fish>. Please also see WVDEP Response 15.

Public Hearing Comments

Commenter 7 Jason Bostic, West Virginia Coal Association

Comment 30: The association would like to compliment the Division of Water and Waste Management for the continuing level of professionalism, technical competency, and public outreach the agency has brought to the water quality standard program of the state, since assuming those rulemaking responsibilities from the Environmental Quality Board.

We believe the current proposal under 47CSR2 is further evidence of that competency in the agency's commitment to rational and technically sound changes to state water quality standards. The revisions to the state selenium standard proposed in the current package, are fully supported by the association in our membership, and are completely justified by the body of science regarding selenium and fish populations in West Virginia streams and rivers.

WVDEP Response 30: Thank you for your comment.

Commenter 8 Than Hitt, West Virginia Rivers Coalition

Comment 31: I noticed that with respect to process, I noticed that in your, in the letter provided by DEP, the effective date for this change was listed as July 1st, 2025. I'm curious how that could be promulgated before the public process, and before the review. So, maybe that's a typo, but in the letter that you provided, 47CSR02 had an effective date of July 1st, 2025.

WVDEP Response 31: This comment appears to be in reference to the notification of public hearing for the proposed rule revisions sent via Listserv email.. The effective date shown was intended for the purpose of indicating the current version of the rule to which revisions were being proposed; it was not the intention to indicate that the proposed revisions were already included in the version of the rule that became effective on July 1st 2025.

The Notice of Public Comment Period filed by WVDEP with the WVSOS on May 30, 2025 provides the actual proposed rule revision in its entirety and in this version of the rule, the effective date is stricken out because this proposed rule version is not yet effective.

<https://apps.sos.wv.gov/sdlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=58140&Format=PDF>

Comment 32: To the merits, the proposed change would focus on sturgeon, and I want to know why. Sturgeon is a fantastic species. It's an American icon, but in West Virginia, it doesn't seem to be all that relevant. Now DNR is attempting to, recover sturgeon and hats off to their efforts, but I'm not sure that sturgeon is the appropriate species to develop water quality standards based on, and so we will be following up with that. Is it arbitrary?

WVDEP Response 32: Thank you for your comment. This comment is similar in content to Comment 11 received from WVRC (Please see WVDEP Response 11). For more information regarding how these criteria were derived, Please also see WVDEP Response 2.

Comment 33: I'm curious about the sampling protocols. If you are to increase the criterion from 8 to 9.5 micrograms per gram in non-sturgeon waters, I'm curious about how that would affect the sampling protocols, because we have demonstrated, that as you increase the standard, you need more individuals -- you need to sample more fish to actually detect the standard...So you need to sample more individuals to account, to account for that. And so I'm curious about how this proposed change will affect the requirements for sampling, or, alternatively, DEP could accept less statistical power to detect an effect. If that's the case, acknowledge it, and that would be transparent.

WVDEP Response 33: Thank you for your comment. This comment is similar in content to Comment 13 received from WVRC (Please see WVDEP Response 13).



REGION 3

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

July 21, 2025

Mr. Jerney Bandy, Director
Division of Water and Waste Management
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street, S.E.
Charleston, WV 25304

Dear Mr. Bandy:

In a June 6, 2025 notice in the *West Virginia State Register* [Vol. XLII, No. 23], the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) public noticed proposed amendments to its Water Quality Standards (WQS) regulation. This amendment proposes "to revise the whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 µg/g to 8.5 µg/g for sturgeon waters and the whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 µg/g to 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 3, has reviewed the proposed amendments to West Virginia's WQS regulation and is providing comments in the Enclosure to this letter. These comments are offered consistent with the EPA's responsibilities under Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) [33 U.S.C. § 1313(c)] and the EPA's obligation to ensure that a state's WQS regulation include water quality criteria that are based on sound scientific rationale and are protective of designated uses [see 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.6(c), 131.11, and 131.21]. Please note that these comments are strictly for WVDEP's consideration and do not constitute approval or disapproval decisions under CWA Section 303(c), or a determination by the EPA Administrator under CWA Section 303(c)(4)(B) and 40 C.F.R. §131.22(b) that revised or new WQS are necessary to meet the requirements of the CWA.

The EPA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on these proposed amendments and is happy to assist WVDEP as necessary to address the comments the EPA is providing in this letter. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Jessica Martinsen , Chief, Standards and TMDLs Section, at (215) 814-5144 or martinsen.jessica@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Michelle Price-Fay, Director
Water Division

Enclosure

Enclosure: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comments on West Virginia’s Proposed Revisions to its Selenium Water Quality Criterion at 47 Series 2, Appendix E, Table 1

On June 6, 2025, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) proposed amendments to West Virginia’s Water Quality Standards (WQS) regulation, in the *West Virginia State Register* [Vol. XLII, No. 23] (public notice). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received notice of the proposed amendments as a member of the WVDEP public notice mailing list by electronic mail on May 30, 2025 (electronic notification). The EPA’s review of these amendments and the comments provided are based on the criterion elements provided in the electronic notification, and the rationale from the public notice. In the amended West Virginia WQS regulation provided with the notice, in the amended selenium criterion at W. Va. C.S.R. §47-2-8.27.1 in Appendix E, Table 1, the magnitudes for the non-sturgeon waters and sturgeon waters are inverted. This would need to be corrected should these values be finalized.

The public notice indicates that the 8.5 µg/g whole-body fish tissue element for the protection of sturgeon waters is based on the whole-body fish tissue element of the EPA’s current Clean Water Act (CWA) 304(a) recommended selenium criterion [see 40 C.F.R. § 131.11(b)(1)(i)], but does not provide detail on how WVDEP derived the revised whole body fish tissue element of 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters other than to note that the amendment is based upon the EPA’s Recalculation Procedures.¹ Please confirm that West Virginia followed the species deletion process where the white sturgeon [*Acipenser transmontanus*] was removed from the list of most sensitive taxa and then the fish whole-body tissue concentration was recalculated based on the remaining species. The EPA has reviewed these proposed amendments and is providing the following comments to assist WVDEP in ensuring that its proposed criteria revision will be consistent with the CWA and its implementing regulations.

The EPA Recommends that WVDEP Consider Revising All Four Elements of West Virginia’s Selenium Criterion (Sturgeon Waters)

Although WVDEP’s public notice characterizes the whole-body tissue concentration as a “criterion”, it is more precisely identified as one element of the selenium criterion. The EPA has several concerns regarding the amendment of only the whole-body fish tissue element of West Virginia’s selenium water quality criterion. Primarily, the EPA is concerned because, as explained below, all of the criterion elements should be protective of the reproductive effects (i.e., the egg/ovary element of the criterion) in freshwater fish.

A state’s WQS regulation must include water quality criteria that are based on sound scientific rationale and are protective of designated uses [see 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.6(c), 131.11(a)]. Numeric criteria should be established based on: “(i) 304(a) Guidance; or (ii) 304(a) Guidance modified to reflect site-specific conditions; or (iii) Other scientifically defensible methods...” [see 40 C.F.R. §131.11(b)(1)]. For purposes of 40 C.F.R. § 131.11(b)(1), the relevant “304(a) Guidance” is the EPA’s national CWA Section 304(a) selenium criterion recommendation.² The EPA’s national CWA Section 304(a) selenium criterion recommendation is expressed as four elements: fish egg-ovary, fish whole-body or muscle tissue, water column monthly (lentic or lotic), and water column intermittent exposure (lentic or lotic). The EPA requests that WV describe how their framework meets statutory and regulatory requirements to protect applicable designated uses based on a sound scientific rationale pursuant to CWA section

¹ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, “Revised Deletion Process for the Site-Specific Recalculation Procedure for Aquatic Life Criteria” (EPA-823-R-13-001, April 2013).

² U.S. EPA, “2021 Revision to: Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criterion for Selenium – Freshwater – 2016” (EPA-822-R-21-006, August 2021).

303(c)(2)(A) and 40 C.F.R. §131.11(a)(1). Prior to June 24, 2016, West Virginia’s selenium criterion consisted solely of acute and chronic water column concentrations. EPA approved, on June 24, 2016,³ West Virginia’s deletion of the acute water column selenium criterion, adoption of fish tissue-based concentrations for fish whole-body, fish muscle and fish egg/ovary, and the adoption of language that established the primacy of the whole-body or muscle elements over the water column element and the egg/ovary element over any other element. WVDEP did not propose changes to its existing chronic water column concentration and therefore the chronic water column element was not part of the EPA’s approval action. At that time, the EPA’s revised 304(a) selenium criterion recommendation had not been finalized, and the EPA approved WV’s adoption of the fish tissue-based elements. Since that approval, the EPA has finalized its national CWA Section 304(a) selenium criterion recommendation.⁴

EPA seeks to understand how West Virginia’s criterion elements are protective of the reproductive effects in freshwater fish using the egg/ovary element as the most representative. The EPA recommends that, for sturgeon waters, WVDEP consider revising its selenium criterion to be wholly consistent with the EPA’s 304(a) selenium criterion recommendation, including updates to the egg/ovary, fish muscle tissue and water column elements [see 40 C.F.R. § 131.11(b)(1)(i)]. The EPA requests that WVDEP provide an analysis, using scientifically defensible methods, demonstrating that all four elements of its criterion for sturgeon waters are protective of reproductive effects in freshwater fish [see 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.6(c) & 131.11(a) & (b)(1)(iii)]. Alternatively, the EPA has a recommended selenium criterion for sturgeon waters which WVDEP may adopt. EPA’s recommended selenium criterion is as follows:

Media Type	Fish Tissue ¹		Water Column ²	
	Egg/Ovary ²	Fish Whole Body or Muscle ³	Monthly Average Exposure	Intermittent Exposure ⁴
Magnitude	15.1 mg/kg dw	8.5 mg/kg dw whole body or 11.3 mg/kg dw muscle (skinless, boneless fillet)	1.5 µg/L in lentic aquatic systems 3.1 µg/L in lotic aquatic systems	$WQC_{int} = \frac{WQC_{30-day} - C_{bg,ss}(1 - f_{int})}{f_{int}}$
Duration	Instantaneous measurement ⁵	Instantaneous measurement ⁶	30 days	Number of days/month with an elevated concentration
Frequency	Not to be exceeded	Not to be exceeded	Not more than once in three years on average	Not more than once in three years on average

1. Fish tissue elements are expressed as steady-state.
2. Egg/Ovary supersedes any whole-body, muscle, or water column element when fish egg/ovary concentrations are measured, except as noted in footnote 4 below.
3. Fish whole-body or muscle tissue supersedes water column element when both fish tissue and water concentrations are measured, except as noted in footnote 4 below.
4. Water column values are based on dissolved total selenium in water and are derived from fish tissue values via bioaccumulation modeling. When selenium inputs are increasing, water column values are the applicable criterion element in the absence of steady-state condition fish tissue data.
5. Where WQC_{30-day} is the water column monthly element, for either a lentic or lotic waters; C_{bg,ss} is the average background selenium concentration, and f_{int} is the fraction of any 30-day period during which elevated selenium concentrations occur, with f_{int} assigned a value ≥0.033 (corresponding to 1 day).
6. Fish tissue data provide instantaneous point measurements that reflect integrative accumulation of selenium over time and space in fish population(s) at a given site.

³ Capacasa, Jon M., U.S. EPA. Letter to Scott Mandirola, WVDEP (June 24, 2016). WVDEP did not propose revisions to its existing chronic water column element, and therefore the EPA did not take action on that element.

⁴See fn. 2, *supra*.

The EPA Recommends that WVDEP Consider Revising All Elements of West Virginia's Selenium Criterion (Non-Sturgeon Waters)

Similar to the EPA's above comments regarding revising all elements of West Virginia's existing selenium criterion, the EPA is recommending that WVDEP consider revising all elements of West Virginia's selenium criterion (non-sturgeon waters) consistent with the EPA's criterion recommendation format and recalculation guidance. The EPA seeks to understand how WVDEP recalculated the whole-body tissue element of 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters [see 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.6(c) & 131.11(b)(iii)]. The EPA is also interested in understanding how West Virginia intends to apply the current Fish Egg/Ovary, Fish Muscle and water column elements and how the recalculated fish whole-body tissue element will be protective of the existing Fish Egg/Ovary concentration of 15.8 µg/g. The EPA is also interested in what data WVDEP relied on to distinguish between sturgeon waters and non-sturgeon waters and any clarifications regarding the extent of sturgeon waters in West Virginia, including waters that may be used for spawning and waters that have been known to support sturgeon at any time since November 28, 1975⁵ and how the revised criterion will be protective of downstream waters that support sturgeon.

Adopt Protective Water Column Elements

When WVDEP revised its selenium criterion in 2016, it maintained its selenium chronic water quality criterion of 5 µg/L. Since that time, the EPA has recommended that WVDEP adopt the water column elements of the EPA's recommended selenium criterion (lentic, lotic and intermittent exposure). Alternately, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.11(b)(1)(ii) and (iii), WVDEP could provide scientifically defensible data to demonstrate that 5 µg/L is protective of the egg-ovary element of West Virginia's selenium criterion. In a letter dated June 8, 2016⁶, WVDEP discussed a two-year study that was underway and intended to demonstrate that 5 µg/L is protective of aquatic life in West Virginia. The EPA welcomes the opportunity to review that study.

The EPA recommends that WVDEP either adopt the EPA recommended water column elements of the selenium criterion to ensure protection of aquatic organisms, provide a justification that demonstrates the continued use of 5 µg/L is protective of aquatic organisms, including reproductive effects, or adopt some other water column element such as one modified to reflect site-specific conditions (e.g., a bioaccumulation factor developed to reflect factors specific to West Virginia) [see 40 C.F.R. §§ 131.6(c); 131.11(a); 131.11(b)].

The EPA Recommends that WVDEP Adopt a Performance-based Approach for Establishing Site-Specific Water Column Elements to Facilitate Development of Effluent Limitations Necessary to Meet Water Quality Standards for Selenium

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits must include effluent limitations necessary to meet water quality standards (water quality-based effluent limitations or WQBELs) [33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(b)(1)(C); 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)]. Development of WQBELs can be challenging when an

⁵ W. Va. C.S.R. §47-2-2.6 defines "Existing uses" as "those uses actually attained in a water on or after November 28, 1975, whether or not those uses are included in the water quality standards."

⁶ Mandirola, Scott G., WVDEP. Letter to Shawn Garvin, U.S. EPA (June 8, 2016)

applicable water quality criterion is expressed in terms other than water column concentration, such as fish tissue.

To facilitate implementation of West Virginia's selenium criterion, the EPA recommends that WVDEP consider adopting a performance-based approach for establishing site-specific water column elements of the selenium criterion. For an example of a performance-based approach for translating the selenium tissue criterion elements into site-specific water column criterion elements, WVDEP can refer to the method that EPA promulgated as part of the selenium criterion for California.⁷

⁷ U.S. EPA. "Method for Translating Selenium Tissue Criterion Elements into Site-specific Water Column Criterion Elements for California, Version 2, December 2024." (EPA 820-R-24008, December 2024).

https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-12/ca-selenium-aba_6322-03-cw_508.pdf



West Virginia Manufacturers Association
2001 Quarrier Street
Charleston, WV 25311
304-342-2123
www.wvma.com

July 9, 2025

Ms. Dawn Newell
Environmental Resources Program Manager
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water and Waste Management
Water Quality Standards
601 57th St. SE
Charleston, WV 25304
dawn.a.newell@wv.gov

Subject: Comments Concerning Changes to 47 CSR 02 ("Requirements Governing Water Quality Standards") Proposed for Adoption During the 2026 Regular Session

Dear Ms. Newell:

The West Virginia Manufacturers Association ("WVMA") appreciates the opportunity to submit comments regarding the changes to 47 CSR 02 ("Requirements Governing Water Quality Standards") proposed for adoption during the 2026 Regular Legislative Session. The WVMA supports the WVDEP DWWM's revision of whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 g/g to 8.5 g/g for sturgeon waters and from 8.0 g/g to 9.5 g/g for non-sturgeon waters. This change reflects the reality of West Virginia's waters, the vast majority of which are not home to sturgeon. The WVMA applauds the WVDEP DWWM for its use of a reasonable and rational approach to the regulation of selenium in West Virginia rivers and streams. This approach will assist WVMA members to meet state requirements and will help preserve the environmental health of West Virginia waterbodies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Bissett', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bill Bissett, Ed.D.
President
West Virginia Manufacturers Association



METALLURGICAL
COAL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 2778
Grundy, VA 24614
Phone: (423) 549-6048
www.metcoalproducers.com

July 15, 2025

Submitted Via Email

Ms. Dawn Newell
WV Department of Environmental Protection
DWWM-Permitting
601 57th Street S.E.
Charleston, WV 25304

RE: Proposed Amendments to 47 CSR 2

Dear Ms. Newell,

The Metallurgical Coal Producers Association (MCPA) appreciates this opportunity to comment in support of DEP's proposed amendments to 47 CSR 2, related to fish tissue selenium criteria. MCPA is a non-profit organization made up of metallurgical coal producers and those who support its producing members' operations. While coal has traditionally been understood through the thermal coal lens of power plants and light bulbs, MCPA seeks to expand the general public's understanding of metallurgical coal and its critical benefit to our everyday lives. Bridges, automobiles, and common products like kitchen appliances are made possible by metallurgical coal. By looking at coal through another lens and helping to create a link between metallurgical coal and its many end uses, MCPA strives to broaden the understanding of how coal powers and enhances our lives.

EPA's 2016 national recommended criteria included white sturgeon in the criteria calculations. Since white sturgeon are not found in West Virginia, EPA has advised states that they may choose to exclude that species of fish from their own criteria calculations. MCPA understands that DEP proposes to do so here, resulting in revised criteria. This is consistent with the approach other states without sturgeon have taken, and we support DEP's proposal here. We encourage DEP to finalize the proposed amendments to 47 CSR 2 as soon as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Please feel free to contact me (304-993-8917 / ben@metcoalproducers.com) or our environmental affairs director and general counsel, Brooks Smith (804-836-7331 / brooks.smith@troutman.com) with any questions.

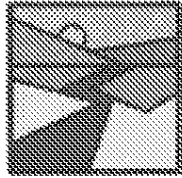
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Benjamin R. Beakes'.

Benjamin R. Beakes
President



METALLURGICAL
COAL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION



WEST VIRGINIA RIVERS

21 July 2025

Dawn Newell
DWWM – WV Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street, SE
Charleston WV 25304
Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

Comments submitted via email

Re: DWWM 2026 Legislative Rules for 47CSR02

Dear Ms. Newell,

On behalf of WV Rivers Coalition members and co-signing organizations, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on DEP's proposed legislative rules for consideration by the West Virginia legislature in 2026.

We focus our comments on 47CSR02 involving water quality standards for selenium (Se). The proposed rule change would weaken water quality standards by increasing the whole-body fish tissue criterion for Se from 8.0 to 9.5 µg/g in most waters of the state (i.e., non-sturgeon waters). However, the ecotoxicological effects of mining-derived Se in wildlife populations are well known¹, and Se may persist downstream of mining activities for several decades². For reasons provided below, ***we oppose weakening this water quality standard***, and we believe that this change would work against the DEP's mission to promote a healthy environment.

¹ Merovich, G., N.P. Hitt, E. Merriam, and J. Jones. 2021. Response of aquatic life to coal mining in Appalachia. Chapter 10 *In: Appalachia's Coal-Mined Landscapes*. C.E. Zipper and J.G. Skousen, eds. Springer, USA.

² Lindberg T.T., E.S. Bernhardt, R. Bier, A.M. Helton, R.B. Merola, A. Vengosh, and R.T. Di Giulio. 2011. Cumulative impacts of mountaintop mining on an Appalachian watershed. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 108:20929-20934.

First, DEP's proposed revision has not undergone the normal process for rule change review by the Environmental Protection Advisory Council (EPAC). Instead, this was requested directly by the WV Coal Association in their letter to DEP dated August 16, 2024 and stems from a site-specific variance requested by Aracoma Coal Company and Highland Mining Company to allow more Se pollution in Dingess Run. We believe that EPAC review is important and necessary to revise water quality standards with sufficient public involvement and technical oversight. Moreover, state code (§22-1-9) provides that "the [DEP] secretary shall consider the council's recommendations for rulemaking when developing agency rules to be submitted for legislative approval," yet this process was not followed in this case because EPAC members were not consulted.

Second, the revised water quality standard would depend on the presence or absence of sturgeon, but this choice of focal species is arbitrary. The focus on sturgeon appears to stem from the coal industry's proposal for a Se variance in Dingess Run in which their numerical model to calculate selenium limits yielded an undesirable result (in their opinion) with the inclusion of sturgeon genus *Acipenser*. Instead, the applicants chose to consider sunfishes (genus *Lepomis*), non-native trout (genera *Oncorhynchus* and *Salmo*), and pike (genus *Esox*). Notably, however, they chose to exclude genera within the minnow and carp family (*Leuciscidae*) which includes many of the species that will be sampled for their assessments or black basses (genus *Micropterus*) which are of economic and cultural importance in WV fisheries. Conversely, rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) were included in the applicants' calculations, but these species do not occur in the vast majority of sites where Se fish tissue sampling will take place. The selection of focal species in this case therefore constitutes an arbitrary decision with significant impact for implementation of the revised standard.

The focus on sturgeon also would be extremely difficult to implement because it would require their presence or absence to be known. However, these are migratory and long-lived species that often occur at low abundances and thus are inherently difficult to document. For instance, biologists with the WV Division of Natural Resources have

attempted to restore shovelnose sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus*) to the Kanawha River and Little Kanawha River³, but it is unclear whether those efforts succeeded in establishing self-reproducing populations⁴. If a sturgeon criterion is retained in the final rule, applicants would need to demonstrate their absence in order to apply the 9.5 µg/g criterion for large rivers that may potentially support this species. This could be done through eDNA sampling⁵, occupancy modeling⁶, or side-scan sonar techniques⁷, and such steps would be necessary to implement the revised standard based on the presence or absence of sturgeon in WV waters.

Third, the revised water quality standard would increase costs and logistical effort to implement because it would require additional fish to be collected and analyzed for each sample. For instance, prior research in the Guyandotte River basin⁸ demonstrates that higher mean selenium concentrations in fish communities contain more variation among individuals, and therefore more fish are needed to maintain statistical power while assessing compliance with a higher standard. Also, prior analysis of DEP data indicates that fish communities in WV rarely exceed the proposed standard of 9.5 µg/g Se (Figure 1), so the proposed water quality revision may be inapplicable to real-world conditions. This pattern may be in part due to increased mortality rates for populations exceeding measured Se concentrations. Such a weakened water quality standard therefore is unlikely to be protective of fish populations as required by aquatic life use designations across the state.

³ <https://wvdnr.gov/plants-animals/sportfish/shovelnose-sturgeon/>

⁴ https://www.wvgazette.com/outdoors/w-va-s-river-monsters/article_3d91f349-a0b1-5843-b2dc-29b72363037d.html

⁵ <https://research.fs.usda.gov/nrs/projects/edna-lake-sturgeon> and <https://doi.org/10.1002/edn3.70006>

⁶ Mettler, A. J., Chiotti, J. A., Briggs, A. S., Boase, J. C., DeBruyne, R. L., Roseman, E. F., and R. Drouin. 2022. Identifying and characterizing juvenile lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*, Rafinesque, 1817) occupancy hot spots within the St. Clair-Detroit River System. *Journal of Applied Ichthyology* 38:137-148. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jai.14302>

⁷ Flowers, H.J. 2013. A novel approach to surveying sturgeon using side-scan sonar and occupancy modeling. *Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science* 5:211-223. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19425120.2013.816396>

⁸ Hitt, N.P. and D.R. Smith. 2015. Threshold-dependent sample sizes for selenium assessment with stream fish tissue. *Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management* 11:143-149. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ieam.1579>

For the above reasons, WV Rivers and the co-signed organizations request that you reject or revise this proposal to change the rules governing water quality standards. Thank you for considering our comments. We look forward to further discussions on this important topic.

Sincerely,

Jennie Smith
Executive Director, WV Rivers Coalition

cc. Nathaniel P. Hitt, PhD
Senior Scientist, WV Rivers Coalition

Maria Russo
Policy Specialist, WV Rivers Coalition

Sandra Fallon
West Virginia Environmental Council

Charles Marsh
Sleepy Creek Watershed Association

Matthew Hepler
Appalachian Voices

Leah Rampy
Save Our Soil

Kay Schultz
Town Run Watershed Association

Dane Gaiser
Plateau Action Network

Kate Lehman
Warm Springs Watershed Association

Amanda Pitzer
Friends of the Cheat

Dave Bassage
New River Conservancy

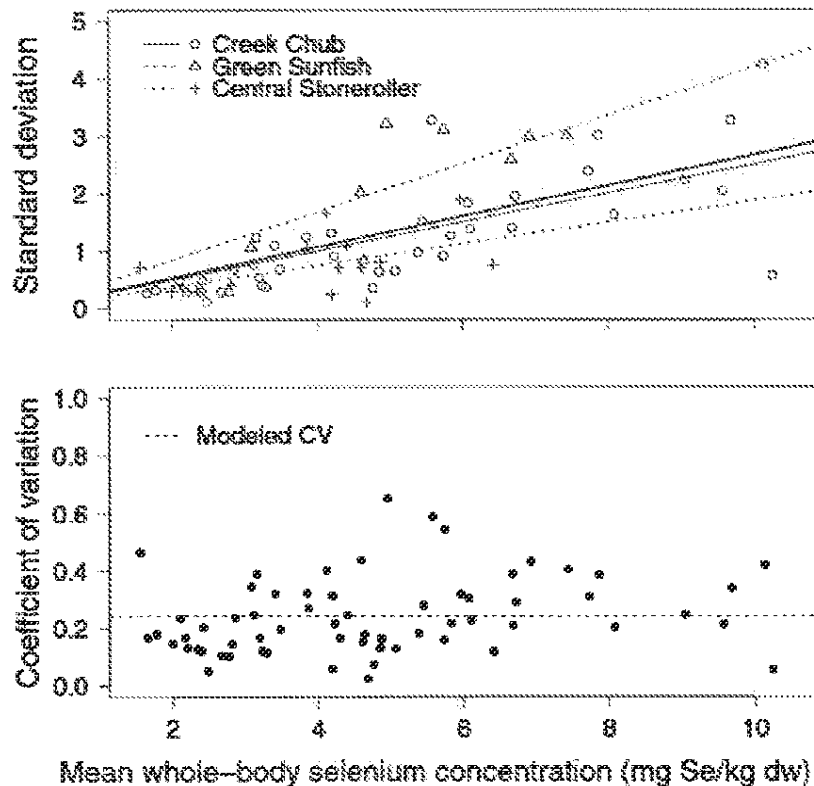


Figure 1. Relationship between mean selenium concentrations (whole-body dry weight) and variance within fish populations. Note that only 4 samples of creek chub exceeded 9.5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (equivalent to mg/kg) in this dataset, and no samples of green sunfish or central stoneroller reached this mean body burden concentration. Lines in the top plot show the linear regression relationships by species (thin lines) and the global relationship (thick line), indicating that samples with increasing mean concentrations support more variation among individuals (i.e., increasing standard deviation). Data were provided by DEP for this analysis, and this figure was originally published in the journal *Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management* in 2015 (<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/ieam.1579>).



West Virginia Coal Association

200 Association Dr. Suite 160, Charleston WV 25311 • (304) 342-4153 • Fax 342-7651 •

www.wvcoal.com

July 21, 2025

Dawn Newell

Water Quality Standards, DWWM

WV Department of Environmental Protection

601 57th St., S.E.

Charleston, WV 25304

Filed via electronic mail: dawn.a.newell@wv.gov

Re: § 47 CSR 2 – Water Quality Standards 2024 Triennial Review

Dear Ms. Newell:

Pursuant to the public notice published by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WV DEP) on May 30, 2025, the West Virginia Coal Association (WVCA) offers the following comments in response to the agency's proposed changes to the state's water quality standards rule, 47 CSR 2.

WVCA is a state coal trade association that represents the interests of companies engaged in the extraction, processing, transportation, and consumption of coal within the State of West Virginia. WVCA is the largest state coal trade association in the nation and our general membership accounts for 80 percent of the Mountain State's surface and underground production of both thermal and metallurgical coal. WVCA's primary goal is to enhance the viability of West Virginia coal as a source of

domestic energy by facilitating environmentally responsible coal mining through reasonable, equitable, and achievable state and federal policy and regulation.

WV DEP proposes to revise the whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 µg/g to 8.5 µg/g for sturgeon waters and the whole-body fish tissue selenium criterion from 8.0 µg/g to 9.5 µg/g for non-sturgeon waters. WVCA supports the proposed revisions to the selenium criteria.

WV DEP developed its selenium criteria in advance of USEPA's national recommended criteria for selenium. Because of this, the data available to WVDEP was slightly different than the data selected by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or development of its selenium fish tissue criteria. In 2025, WV DEP updated the West Virginia database to reflect the genus mean chronic values from EPA's *Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criterion for Selenium – Freshwater (2016)*. Based on this update, WV DEP proposes to adopt the national recommended selenium whole body fish tissue criterion of 8.5 µg/g for waters with sturgeon.

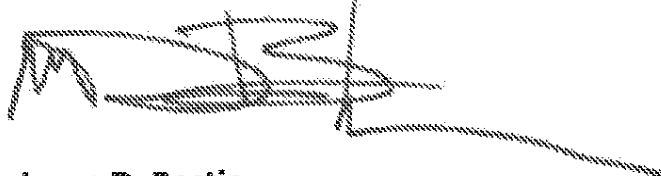
However, most West Virginia waters are not capable of supporting sturgeon. The database for EPA's selenium criteria (along with the revised West Virginia database) includes the effects of selenium on the white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*), which is non-native and not found in West Virginia. Only two other members of the family *Acipenseridae*, are potentially found in West Virginia. According to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WV DNR), the shovelnose sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus*) is extremely rare, transient, and extirpated from the state

due to poor water quality. The lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) is also potentially found in the Ohio River but are transient fish with large home ranges and are extremely rare.

For this reason, WV DEP has recalculated its selenium criteria for waters where sturgeon are not present. Specifically, the recalculation is based on removal of the sturgeon genus, which mean chronic value (GMCV) in accordance with USEPA's *Guidelines for Deriving Numerical National Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Aquatic Organisms and Their Uses* (1985). Once the sturgeon were removed from the species list, the remaining fishes were ranked. Then, calculations were performed using the procedure for calculating the final chronic value outlined in the US EPA Guidelines. WV DEP's recalculation is supported by the US EPA Guidelines and is fully protective of aquatic life in West Virginia waters.

For these reasons, WVCA supports the proposed changes to the selenium whole body fish tissue criteria in the WQS Rule. We commend WV DEP for the scientific work involved in the recalculation process. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Jason D. Bostic
Executive Vice President
West Virginia Coal Association**



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 9:57 PM

To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Angie Dixon** <angied@whidbey.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 4:38 PM

Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Angie Dixon
6840 Humphrey Rd
Clinton, WA 98236

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 9:51 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Betsy Lawson** <bjaegerart@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 9:46 PM

Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Betsy Lawson
1213 Gallus Rd
Morgantown, WV 26501

--
Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 9:57 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cindy Bodin** <cabodin79@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 2:53 PM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Cindy Bodin
PO Box 253
GREAT CACAPON, WV 25422

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Tue, Jul 22, 2025 at 7:22 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ed Fiedler** <sparkplug2626@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 10:10 PM

Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ed Fiedler
11505 June Dr
Austin, TX 78753

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 1:43 PM

To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Elizabeth Clark** <ebethc2@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 7:50 AM

Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Clark
PO Box 391
Lewisburg, WV 24901

--
Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 9:52 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Grace Ukoha** <gugruggle@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 5:09 PM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Grace Ukoha
483 S Summit Dr
Holtz Summit, MO 65043

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 1:44 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jennifer Fisher** <missonethousandsspringblossoms@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 6:50 AM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I fiercely oppose West Virginia once again taking action in the interests of industry—they rake in profits and then go bankrupt in order to avoid its duty to those who live, work, and die here. Then they change names and do it again. Its insanity. We use this water. We fish these creeks, lakes, and rivers. We eat these fish. We have children and grandchildren to think of. Raising limits on this pollution is not keeping to your boundaries; it's power and money, yet again, setting the boundaries they want. Its WVDEP choosing what is important. We know these coal companies wont have the same name in less than a generation. They will exploit for profit, go over whatever boundaries even they propose, and go bankrupt, leaving scars that won't heal right like deformed fish, bad water. This is not the way to thrive. Our children are watching us, and Appalachia is an ark of biodiversity in a world of climate change. It is here we should most protect, we should future proof. Be brave. We all need food and water. Be friends of the future, not friends of coal.

I oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Fisher
4389 Paynes Ford Rd
Kearneysville, WV 25430

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 1:40 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lori Post** <lorimichelle1@hotmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 12:51 PM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Lori Post
124 Pine Dr
Little Hocking, OH 45742

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 9:52 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mindy Messerly <mindymesserly@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 7:12 PM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Mindy Messerly
5626 Staunton Turnpike
Petroleum, WV 26161

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 1:40 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Montie VanNostrand** <montie@mountain.net>
Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 11:05 AM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Montie VanNostrand
PO Box 111
HACKER VALLEY, WV 26222

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Smith, Chris B <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>
To: Chris B Smith <chris.b.smith@wv.gov>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 1:40 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Paul Baker** <paulfran3@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 12:07 PM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Paul Baker
438 Gristmill Rd
Fairmont, WV 26554

--

Dawn Newell, Manager

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section

Standards Unit

Dawn.A.Newell@wv.gov

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robby Abou-Rizk <drobbyab@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Robby Abou-Rizk <drobbyab@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:05 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robby Abou-Rizk
1080 Pyles Rd
Hillsboro, WV 24946



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Theresa Allen <tvalien338@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Theresa Allen <tvalien338@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:54 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Theresa Allen
15238 County Road 20
Forest, OH 45843



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

H Ande <shredbetty70@gmail.com>
Reply-To: H Ande <shredbetty70@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:07 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
H Ande
3310 66th St E
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Franklin Anderson <smileyfrankra@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Franklin Anderson <smileyfrankra@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:11 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Franklin Anderson
105 Brookhaven Dr
Nitro, WV 25143



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Isaac Anderson <icandydomin8s@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Isaac Anderson <icandydomin8s@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:24 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Isaac Anderson
323 W Race St
Martinsburg, WV 25401



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Carlos Arnold <carlos.arnold39@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Carlos Arnold <carlos.arnold39@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:27 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Carlos Arnold
409 Fair Oaks Dr
Santa Maria, CA 93455



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Alam Asbury <outdrfamily2020@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Alam Asbury <outdrfamily2020@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:21 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Alam Asbury
PO Box 535
White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Daphne Ashworth <daphneelaine@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Daphne Ashworth <daphneelaine@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:30 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject

Sincerely,
Daphne Ashworth
709 ravenwood pike
ripley, WV 25271



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jennifer Baker <jensh2o4me@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jennifer Baker <jensh2o4me@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:28 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Baker
471 Anderson Estates Road
Lewisburg, WV 24901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

SCOTT BALDERSON <stbalderson@gmail.com>
Reply-To: SCOTT BALDERSON <stbalderson@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:51 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
SCOTT BALDERSON
1221 Lakewood Circle
Washington, WV 26181



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Joanne Bario <joannebario@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Joanne Bario <joannebario@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:56 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Joanne Bario
64 Sage Pl
Shepherdstown, WV 25443



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Virginie Bauer <raguinv@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: Virginie Bauer <raguinv@hotmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 5:57 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

Please stand firmly, and protect our water quality. Our water resources are threatened by many sources of pollution, weakening protection standards is irresponsible.

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Virginie Bauer
211 E 11th Avenue
Ranson, WV 25414



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ally Beard <anicole092@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ally Beard <anicole092@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 4:30 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits. This would be a detrimental move to a state that is heavily reliant on its natural resources for tourism money. Having moved to West Virginia from another state, the wildlife and natural areas is one of the things that I find most valuable about this state, and this move would undermine that resource.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ally Beard
102 Finnell St
Morgantown, WV 26505



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Derek Benedict <dsbened@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Derek Benedict <dsbened@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:13 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Derek Benedict
709 - 212th PL SW
Lynnwood, WA 98038



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Cynthia Bennett <cvalderrey@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Cynthia Bennett <cvalderrey@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:49 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Bennett
10838 Rippling Stream Dr
Concord, NC 28027



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Morgan Boerum <mboerum14@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Morgan Boerum <mboerum14@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:44 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Morgan Boerum
631 Kestrel Dr
Falling Waters, WV 25419



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ronnie Bolling <ronmanbolling@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ronnie Bolling <ronmanbolling@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:46 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ronnie Bolling
411 Walnut St PMB 16921
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Michele Bouchard <zackntay02@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Michele Bouchard <zackntay02@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:58 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Michele Bouchard
5 Oakland St
Waterville, ME 04901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

George Bourlotos <gb191919gb@gmail.com>
Reply-To: George Bourlotos <gb191919gb@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 6:37 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
George Bourlotos
48 Flanders Bartley Rd
Flanders, NJ 07838



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

jerry bowles <jerrybowles66@gmail.com>
Reply-To: jerry bowles <jerrybowles66@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 5:10 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
jerry bowles
218 Chestnut Farm Ln
Lewisburg, WV 24901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Charles Brabec <thebrabecs@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Charles Brabec <thebrabecs@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:57 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Charles Brabec
PO Box 273
Canvas, WV 26662



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Lorraine Brabham <tweety336@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Lorraine Brabham <tweety336@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:46 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Lorraine Brabham
932 Bloomfield St
Hoboken, NJ 07030



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Miranda Brace <mirandadbrace@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Miranda Brace <mirandadbrace@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:53 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Miranda Brace
2403 Morningside Ave
Parkersburg, WV 26101



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Marya Bradley <mabstream@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Marya Bradley <mabstream@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 7:09 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

I am appalled that this is being proposed; Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms and causes severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

I am stunned that we are being asked to embrace the suffering and death of wildlife and the poisoning of our water to accommodate the coal industry's request to loosen these limits and pretend that it is simply fine to allow ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

In disbelief and in the hope of reason, sanity and an ethical compass, I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Marya Bradley
11 Prices Ln
Rose Valley, PA 19063



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Paul Breitenbach <pjbreitenbach@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Paul Breitenbach <pjbreitenbach@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:42 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Paul Breitenbach
5298 Paynes Ford Rd
Keamsville, WV 25430



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

David Brisell <big sandydog@gmail.com>
Reply-To: David Brisell <big sandydog@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 6:59 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
David Brisell
3491 Clifton Mills Rd
Bruceton Mills, WV 26525



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

LAWRENCE BROWN <leb2006@gmail.com>
Reply-To: **LAWRENCE BROWN** <leb2006@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:20 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
LAWRENCE BROWN
126 MOHAWK LANE
ABSECON, NJ 08201



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Richard Brown <rb882384@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Richard Brown <rb882384@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:47 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Richard Brown
526 Gatewood Ave
Oak Hill, WV 25901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Paul Brown <pmbrown1944@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Paul Brown <pmbrown1944@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 11:13 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Paul Brown
105 Marlboro Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15238



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Frank J Bryant <fjbryant@optonline.net>
Reply-To: Frank J Bryant <fjbryant@optonline.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:54 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Frank J Bryant
7 Brook Pl
East Islip, NY 11730



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jamie Burks <jamieburks67@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jamie Burks <jamieburks67@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:26 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jamie Burks
8542 Trumbauer Dr
Glenside, PA 19038



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Elizabeth Butler <littlegrove1110@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Elizabeth Butler <littlegrove1110@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:29 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Butler
1110 S Alves St
Henderson, KY 42420



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Cheryl Brown <cheryl.brown.mtown@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Cheryl Brown <cheryl.brown.mtown@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:47 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Brown
705 Goshen Rd
Morgantown, WV 26508



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

James Campbell <mcampbell641@gmail.com>
Reply-To: James Campbell <mcampbell641@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 11:38 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
James Campbell
400 Le Ranch Blvd
Ridgway, CO 81432



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Carmella Campione <ccampione@csjoseph.org>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:51 PM

Reply-To: Carmella Campione <ccampione@csjoseph.org>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Carmella Campione
137 Mount Saint Joseph Rd
Wheeling, WV 26003



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Geraldine Card <geraldinecard87@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Geraldine Card <geraldinecard87@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 1:56 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Geraldine Card
237 N D St
Exeter, CA 93221



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Drew Cardis <cardisliz@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Drew Cardis <cardisliz@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:02 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Drew Cardis
PO Box 1921
Shepherdstown, WV 25443



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

cor Carelsen <corcarelsen@gmail.com>
Reply-To: cor Carelsen <corcarelsen@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 6:43 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
cor Carelsen
970 West Leigh Dr
Charlottesville, VA 22901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sarah Cayton <scayton11@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sarah Cayton <scayton11@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 11:48 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sarah Cayton
3804 Westlake Dr
Morgantown, WV 26508



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Brent Cayton <bdcayton@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Brent Cayton <bdcayton@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 3:22 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Brent Cayton
3904 Westlake Drive
Morgantown, WV 26508



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Carina Chadwick <carina.chadwick@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Carina Chadwick <carina.chadwick@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:07 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Carina Chadwick
22422 Poplar St
Santa Clarita, CA 91390



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jackie Chambers <pktrsdm0305@msn.com>
Reply-To: Jackie Chambers <pktrsdm0305@msn.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 3:16 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jackie Chambers
1406 Pennsylvania Ave.
Fairmont, WV 26554



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Becky Chandler <wvsnooper1@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Becky Chandler <wvsnooper1@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:35 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Becky Chandler
125 5th Ave
South Charleston, WV 25303



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Phyllis Chavez <phyllis@phyllischavez.com>
Reply-To: Phyllis Chavez <phyllis@phyllischavez.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Phyllis Chavez
2112 Ocean Park Blvd Apt 5
Santa Monica, CA 90405



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Andrea Chin <anlchin@uw.edu>
Reply-To: Andrea Chin <anlchin@uw.edu>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:01 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Andrea Chin
16095 Cleveland St
Redmond, WA 98052



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

AJ cho <amenoartemis@gmail.com>
Reply-To: AJ cho <amenoartemis@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:29 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
AJ cho
159 Santa Teresa
San Leandro, CA 94579



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Phillip Claxon <phillip.claxon@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Phillip Claxon <phillip.claxon@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:09 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Phillip Claxon
129 Elkins St
Parsons, WV 22191



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

mariah clay <rixhaley@gmail.com>
Reply-To: mariah clay <rixhaley@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 8:35 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
mariah clay
856 RT FRK BROAD HOLW RD
Huntington, WV 25704



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Judith Clister <webname@frontiernet.net>
Reply-To: Judith Clister <webname@frontiernet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:31 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Judith Clister
840 Boyard Road
Bruceton Mills, WV 26025



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jarrett Cloud <jarretcloud09@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jarrett Cloud <jarretcloud09@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:38 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jarrett Cloud
119 Brooklyn-Stanhope Road
Stanhope, NJ 07874



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Travis Collins <trcollins45@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Travis Collins <trcollins45@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 12:15 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Travis Collins
6306 Echo Summit Ln
Arlington, TX 76017



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Rebekah Colours <rebekahcolours@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Rebekah Colours <rebekahcolours@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:22 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Rebekah Colours
10017 Lake Ave Apt 108
Cleveland, OH 44102



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ashley Copen <ashleysierracopen06@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ashley Copen <ashleysierracopen06@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 12:24 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ashley Copen
124 Phyllis Drive
Charleston, WV 25302



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jared Cornelia <jaredc1200@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jared Cornelia <jaredc1200@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:33 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jared Cornelia
2165 Sedall Rd
Grand Island, NY 14072



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sue Covello <covellosl@citlink.net>
Reply-To: Sue Covello <covellosl@citlink.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:46 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sue Covello
7124 Queen
Middleway, WV 25430



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Dan Crawford <dbcrawford@cox.net>
Reply-To: Dan Crawford <dbcrawford@cox.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:59 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Dan Crawford
2311 Kipling St SW
Roanoke, VA 24018



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Donald Criss <donaldr criss@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Donald Criss <donaldr criss@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:39 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing as a professional hydro geologist to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Donald Criss
161 Phillips Holw
Elizabeth, WV 26143



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Anna Cruikshank <alcruikshank1@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Anna Cruikshank <alcruikshank1@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:42 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Anna Cruikshank
1495 W Possum Rd Springfield, OH 45506-2832
alcruikshank1@gmail.com

Sincerely,
Anna Cruikshank
1495 W Possum Rd
Springfield, OH 45506



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Tom Cullen <craic@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Tom Cullen <craic@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:51 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Tom Cullen
2129 Keister Rd
Lewisburg, WV 24901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ann Cuppy <anncuppy@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ann Cuppy <anncuppy@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 11:31 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ann Cuppy
PO Box 24
Weirton, WV 26062



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Johanna Curry <jlcurry85@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Johanna Curry <jlcurry85@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 12:08 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

We need more protection for our water in this state- we do not have enough! Reducing the protections we already have, shouldn't even be entertained- represent the interest of the state- it's inhabitants, do not give short cuts that only serve to hurt us!

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Johanna Curry
PO Box 631
Barrackville, WV 26559



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Connie Dale <csdale24@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Connie Dale <csdale24@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 1:44 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Connie Dale
38 Seneca Street
St. Marys, WV 26184



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Susan Daley <daleysusan9@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Susan Daley <daleysusan9@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 7:59 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Susan Daley
2904 Grafton Dr
Kissimmee, FL 34741



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ann darling <darling@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Ann darling <darling@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 11:11 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ann darling
1795 Parkside Dr
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Deann Darling <anndie905@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Deann Darling <anndie905@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:53 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Deann Darling
305 Dee Ln
Arlington, TX 76011



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Natalie DeBoer <natdebo53@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Natalie DeBoer <natdebo53@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 11:18 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Natalie DeBoer
8823 Michaux Lane
Henrico, VA 23226



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Tom Degen <degen@frontiernet.net>
Reply-To: Tom Degen <degen@frontiernet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:42 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Tom Degen
199 Greenwood Ln
Chloe, WV 25235



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jean Diamond <jeand101@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jean Diamond <jeand101@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:35 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jean Diamond
3401 Flint Rd, Columbus OH 43235
Columbus, OH 43235



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Rebekkah Dick <becky8007@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Rebekkah Dick <becky8007@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:47 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Rebekkah Dick
2978 Barker Ridge Road
Milton, WV 25541



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Laura Dickey <poetfire40@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Laura Dickey <poetfire40@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 11:34 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Laura Dickey
2879 State Rt 23 Apt 3
Newfoundland, NJ 07435



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Lisa Diehl <lisadiehl@zoominternet.net>
Reply-To: Lisa Diehl <lisadiehl@zoominternet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:25 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Lisa Diehl
461 Alum Fork Rd
Auburn, WV 26325



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Elaine Donovan <donovaneb2@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Elaine Donovan <donovaneb2@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:46 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Elaine Donovan
1637 S Ave NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Louise Doucette <loudoucette33@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Louise Doucette <loudoucette33@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 11:51 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Louise Doucette
PO Box 194
Great Cacapon, WV 25422



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

David Dougherty <wyrmfire3@gmail.com>
Reply-To: David Dougherty <wyrmfire3@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 11:28 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
David Dougherty
282 Pershing Ave
New Britain, CT 06053



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Emily Dragon <emmilely@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Emily Dragon <emmilely@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:06 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Emily Dragon
187 Steeple Chase Dr
Shenandoah Junction, WV 25442



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

JOHN DROPP <qbs2000@frontiernet.net>
Reply-To: JOHN DROPP <qbs2000@frontiernet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 11:00 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

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Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
JOHN DROPP
50 Mill Farm Trl
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

John Dunn <jdsmd3x@gmail.com>
Reply-To: John Dunn <jdsmd3x@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:12 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
John Dunn
66 E Valley Brook Rd
Long Valley, NJ 07863



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Stephen Dutschke <sdutschke@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Stephen Dutschke <sdutschke@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 12:49 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Stephen Dutschke
4306 Darbrook Rd.
Louisville, KY 40207



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Dominique Edmondson <dedmondson@cwa-union.org>
Reply-To: Dominique Edmondson <dedmondson@cwa-union.org>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:41 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Dominique Edmondson
10708 Wyo Dr
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Chantal Eldridge <chantaleldridge@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Chantal Eldridge <chantaleldridge@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 10:39 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Chantal Eldridge
8828 Needham Ln
Austin, TX 78739



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Desirae Ellison <desirae.s.ellison@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Desirae Ellison <desirae.s.ellison@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 1:09 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Desirae Ellison
4714 Okey L. Patterson Rd
Searbro, WV 25817



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

B. E. <barerickson@gmail.com>
Reply-To: "B. E." <barerickson@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:55 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,

B. E.

Village School Rd.
Westlake Village, CA 91361



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Micheal Erickson <ohldmakwa69@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Micheal Erickson <ohldmakwa69@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:46 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Micheal Erickson
2515 S 9th St
Minneapolis, MN 55406



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Theresa Ernest <jepkbr@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Theresa Ernest <jepkbr@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:10 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Theresa Ernest
323 W Poinsetta Ave
Toledo, OH 43612



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Char Esser <3.14cje@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Char Esser <3.14cje@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:14 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Char Esser
115 County Line Rd
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Linda Ferland <tibetsun23@tutanota.com>
Reply-To: Linda Ferland <tibetsun23@tutanota.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 6:12 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Linda Ferland
48 Pearl St.
Claremont, NH 03743



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Rachel Fickey <rachelfickey@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Rachel Fickey <rachelfickey@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 11:13 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Rachel Fickey
322 Lelia St
Palestine, TX 75603



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Margarita Flener <jflener424@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Margarita Flener <jflener424@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:53 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Margarita Flener
416 W Borden St
Sinton, TX 78387



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Janet Forman <giselle351@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Janet Forman <giselle351@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 3:56 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Janet Forman
351 west 24 street
New York, NY 10011



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Monty Fowler <monty@mffowler.net>
Reply-To: Monty Fowler <monty@mffowler.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:53 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Monty Fowler
625 South Terrace
Huntington, WV 25705



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Courtney Franklin <courtfranklin.cf@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Courtney Franklin <courtfranklin.cf@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 9:17 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaker than for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Courtney Franklin
501 E 63rd St N Lot 110
Park City, MO 67219



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sally Gagne <sgagne@erols.com>
Reply-To: Sally Gagne <sgagne@erols.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:59 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sally Gagne
276 Firefly Ln
Hedgesville, WV 25242



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ked Garden <kedz2garden@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ked Garden <kedz2garden@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 3:07 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ked Garden
2328 Main St
Lemon Grove, CA 91945



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ken Gibb <kengibb@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 4:13 PM

Reply-To: Ken Gibb <kengibb@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ken Gibb
PO Box 11616
Zephyr Cove, NV 89448



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Rita Glasscock <ritalink9@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Rita Glasscock <ritalink9@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:45 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Rita Glasscock
1200 Camino Consuelo
Santa Fe, NM 87507



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Carrie Gleason <carrieg10319@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Carrie Gleason <carrieg10319@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:01 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Carrie Gleason
2155 s eastover st
Bennett, CO 80102



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

laura glenn <oneofseven@kc.surewest.net>
Reply-To: laura glenn <oneofseven@kc.surewest.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:01 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
laura glenn
11421 W 106th St
Overland Park, KS 66214



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Penelope Gobar <sunrisesister343@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Penelope Gobar <sunrisesister343@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:23 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Penelope Gobar
343 Sunrise Park
Sylva, NC 28779



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sally Goodyear <devcon03@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sally Goodyear <devcon03@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 5:34 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sally Goodyear
240 franklin St
Clymer, PA 15728



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Martha Gorak <martha2503@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Martha Gorak <martha2503@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:25 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Martha Gorak
837 Jaquet Dr
Bellaire, TX 77401



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Amanda Gordon <gordonsgoods407@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Amanda Gordon <gordonsgoods407@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:18 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Amanda Gordon
828 Lighthouse Cv
Sanford, FL 32773



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jeffrey Gordon <jeffhr@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Gordon <jeffhr@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:55 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Gordon
45 Maple Ave
Morgantown, WV 26501



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Nancy Gowani <nancyg900@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Nancy Gowani <nancyg900@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:13 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Nancy Gowani
20543 Tiara St
Woodland Hills, CA 91367



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Amy Grace <amy3grace@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Amy Grace <amy3grace@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 5:40 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Amy Grace
722 Everett St S
Stillwater, MN 55082



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

JACKIE Gray <bambi4878@gmail.com>
Reply-To: JACKIE Gray <bambi4878@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:36 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
JACKIE Gray
107 High St
Carrboro, NC 27510



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

L Grecco <wuethy@gmail.com>
Reply-To: L Grecco <wuethy@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:14 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
L Grecco
7758 Bluebird Ln
Young Harris, GA 30582



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jamie Green <springhead.jg@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jamie Green <springhead.jg@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:45 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jamie Green
9727 Sweetwater Ln
Ventura, CA 93004



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Rhonda Green <nannyg@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Rhonda Green <nannyg@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:21 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Rhonda Green
PO Box 6100
Beverly Hills, CA 90212



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Diana Green <dkgg@suddenlink.net>
Reply-To: Diana Green <dkgg@suddenlink.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:31 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I am writing to express my very strong opposition to raising the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

I speak from experience both as an angler who has observed first-hand the deformities in fish due to excessive selenium and as a former employee of an environmental consulting firm. Please listen to the scientists and NOT the polluters and their political hacks.

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry. The coal industry is on its way out, dying slowly, and we don't need to add to its long trail of pollution and environmental degradation.

Clean water is a vital and precious resource and should be protected for living and future generations.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Diana Green
47 Treehouse Ln
Charleston, WV 25314



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Diana Greenhalgh <diana12759@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Diana Greenhalgh <diana12759@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:19 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Diana Greenhalgh
2051 Red Lick Rd
New Milton, WV 26411



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Probyn Gregory <probyngregory@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Probyn Gregory <probyngregory@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:54 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Probyn Gregory
10877 Deliban St
Tujunga, CA 91042



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Pamylle Greinke <pamylle1@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Pamylle Greinke <pamylle1@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:22 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Pamylle Greinke
PO Box 456
Peconic, NY 11958



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Julie Griffith <jjgrif2@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Julie Griffith <jjgrif2@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 1:14 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Julie Griffith
1020 Kehoe Dr
Saint Charles, IL 60174



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Margaret Guilfooy Tyler <mmguilfooy@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Margaret Guilfooy Tyler <mmguilfooy@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:37 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Margaret Guilfooy Tyler
8 Cambridge Ct
Saint Louis, MO 63122



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Steven Gunnoe <spgunnoe84@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Steven Gunnoe <spgunnoe84@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:31 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Steven Gunnoe
3237 Mountaineer Hwy
Maben, WV 25870



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Perry Gx <perrygxx@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Perry Gx <perrygxx@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:44 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

The Bottom Line,

I'm writing to strongly **OPPOSE** the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Perry Gx
14312 Franklin Avenue
Tustin, CA 92780



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robert Halfin <rjcsh483@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Robert Halfin <rjcsh483@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 6:10 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robert Halfin
483 Location Rd.
Parsons, WV 26287



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Clara Halfin <rjcsh483@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Clara Halfin <rjcsh483@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 6:09 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Clara Halfin
483 Location Rd.
Parsons, WV 26287



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Emma Hall <emmamhall1999@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Emma Hall <emmamhall1999@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:55 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Emma Hall
468 Lawnview Drive
Morgantown, WV 26505



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robin Hamlin <hamlinra@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Robin Hamlin <hamlinra@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:01 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robin Hamlin
2330 Mather Rd
McKinteyville, CA 95519



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Paul Hancock <pchancock55@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Paul Hancock <pchancock55@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:34 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Paul Hancock
1609 Quarrier St
Charleston, WV 25311



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Richard Hanna <climba14er@suddenlink.net>
Reply-To: Richard Hanna <climba14er@suddenlink.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:18 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Richard Hanna
1204 Williamsburg Way
Charleston, WV 25314



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Richard Hanna <climba14er@suddenlink.net>
Reply-To: Richard Hanna <climba14er@suddenlink.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:18 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Richard Hanna
1204 Williamsburg Way
Charleston, WV 25314



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Shirlene Harris <shirleneharris2014@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Shirlene Harris <shirleneharris2014@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:47 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Shirlene Harris
13333 Syracuse
San Antonio, TX 78249



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Nancy Harris <nancy.harris.wv@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Nancy Harris <nancy.harris.wv@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 4:24 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Nancy Harris
331 Lee St N
Lewisburg, WV 24901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

John Harshbarger <JohnM.Harshbarger@gmail.com>
Reply-To: John Harshbarger <JohnM.Harshbarger@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:44 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
John Harshbarger
1019 Upland Dr
South Charleston, WV 25309



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kay Hart <kayihart24@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kay Hart <kayihart24@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:34 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Our bird population was drastically affected by DDT in water. Now you want to poison our fish and other organisms that live in our beautiful WV streams & River.

Our animals need to be protected from toxins in our waters.

Sincerely,
Kay Hart
134 Daves Ln
Elkins, WV 26241



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Elizabeth Hastings <lizziesue53@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Elizabeth Hastings <lizziesue53@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:26 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Hastings
670 Uvilla Rd
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Noah Haydon <noahhaydon@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Noah Haydon <noahhaydon@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:56 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Noah Haydon
405 91st St
Daly City, CA 94015



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kylee Heims <kylee.heims@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kylee Heims <kylee.heims@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 4:34 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kylee Heims
102 Finnell St
Morgantown, WV 26605



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Linda Hendrix <bendher63@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Linda Hendrix <bendher63@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:13 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Linda Hendrix
104 SE Airpark Dr
Bend, OR 97702



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Laura Herndon <herndonlaura0@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Laura Herndon <herndonlaura0@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:53 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Laura Herndon
3311 W Alameda Ave
Burbank, CA 91505



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Terence Hero <Culture.nut@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Terence Hero <Culture.nut@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:50 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Terence Hero
205 Uhler Ave.
Marion, OH 43302



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Elizabeth Hestick <terratopia@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Elizabeth Hestick <terratopia@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 10:29 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Hestick
Broomsage rd
Fairmont, WV 26554



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Angela Hoehne <angiehoehne606@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Angela Hoehne <angiehoehne606@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 3:01 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Angela Hoehne
Bahnweg 4
Taufkirchen/ Vils, AL 84416



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ashley Hoffman <hoffman.therapeutics@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ashley Hoffman <hoffman.therapeutics@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 10:06 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ashley Hoffman
PO BOX 4057
Frederick, MD 21705



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Maya Hoffmann <maya.hoffmann@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Maya Hoffmann <maya.hoffmann@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:56 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Maya Hoffmann
104 Oak St
Elkins, WV 26241



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Mark Hollinrake <markhollinrake1993@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Mark Hollinrake <markhollinrake1993@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 5:24 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Mark Hollinrake
35 Morningside Av
New York, NY 10026



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Anita Hornor <aehornor@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Anita Hornor <aehornor@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:52 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Anita Hornor
652 Deerfield Dr
Bridgeport, WV 26330



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Lowell Hott <aah1953@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Lowell Hott <aah1953@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:58 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Lowell Hott
99 Loy Rd
Augusta, WV 26704



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Bella Hubbard <izabellahubbard@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Bella Hubbard <izabellahubbard@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:20 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Bella Hubbard
107 Summerlee Ave. Apt. 1
Oak Hill, WV 25901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Margaret Hutchison <maggie.hutchison2013@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Margaret Hutchison <maggie.hutchison2013@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:09 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

Why, why should the coal industry be allowed to skirt yet another responsibility? I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Margaret Hutchison
361 River Trail Ln
Lewisburg, WV 24901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jan Hyer <janhyer@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jan Hyer <janhyer@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 1:49 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jan Hyer
117 Scenery Dr
Morgantown, WV 26505



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Eva Ice <irichwood@frontiernet.net>
Reply-To: Eva Ice <irichwood@frontiernet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:58 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

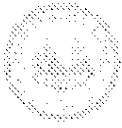
Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Eva Ice
88 Richwood Run Rd
Jacksonburg, WV 26377



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Marc And Alice Marc And Alice Imlay <wildmarcimlay@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Marc And Alice Marc And Alice Imlay <wildmarcimlay@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:13 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Marc And Alice Marc And Alice Imlay
2321 woodberry Drive
Bryans Road, MD 20616



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Aju James <basiljames91@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Aju James <basiljames91@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:33 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Aju James
1580 Dixie St
Charleston, WV 25311



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

John Jayne <john.jayne1@gmail.com>
Reply-To: John Jayne <john.jayne1@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:54 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Even if selenium has no known immediate danger to humans, it might have long-term effects. And other pollutants released do make humans sick. We already have to pay an enormous amount for health care/insurance. Let's not compound the situation by polluting our air/water.

Sincerely,
John Jayne
91 Loring Rd
Weston, MA 02463



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

J J <jpavilagran@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 12:56 AM

Reply-To: J J <jpavilagran@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,

J J

Park Avenue

New York, CT 08007



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Adam Johnson <adam.b.johnson1@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Adam Johnson <adam.b.johnson1@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:07 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Adam Johnson
469 Park St
Oak Hill, WV 25901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Barb Johnson <barbj530@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Barb Johnson <barbj530@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 9:45 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Barb Johnson
584 Deer Mountain Dr
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Terry Johnson <tjohnson15@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Terry Johnson <tjohnson15@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:30 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Terry Johnson
114 Riverview Dr
Tomado, WV 26202



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jay Jordna <bobcat0037@outlook.com>
Reply-To: Jay Jordna <bobcat0037@outlook.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 4:35 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

Seriously! Raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams! Please oppose this nonsense, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Not just harming stream environments, rumor of this could destroy or fishing and hunting tourism. The secondary harm to humans consuming hunted and fished affected wildlife could be devastating. West Virginia wants to be know for a clean, attractive environment for our mega tourism trade.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please work to halt the progress of such foolishness and maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards.

Sincerely,
Jay Jordna
1409 Mountainside Rd
Davis, WV 26260



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Todd Keffer <keffer.todd@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Todd Keffer <keffer.todd@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 9:27 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Todd Keffer
620 7th Street
Huntington, WV 25701



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Perry Kendall <PearEmail@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Perry Kendall <PearEmail@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:26 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

It is imperative you oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Most egregiously selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl~ hence humanity. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

We desperately need DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold essential science-based standards. Weakening them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Perry Kendall
8307 Flourtown Avenue
Wyndmoor, PA 19038



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kate Kenner <faunesiegel@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kate Kenner <faunesiegel@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 4:45 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kate Kenner
3539 Weatherhead Hollow Rd
Guilford, VT 05301



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jon Kiesling <kieslingje@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jon Kiesling <kieslingje@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:31 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jon Kiesling
819 Greelley Ave
Saint Louis, MO 63119



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Karen Kindel <k.kindel@att.net>
Reply-To: Karen Kindel <k.kindel@att.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:46 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Karen Kindel
804 16th St NE
Massillon, OH 44846



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

James Kirby <kirbj712@gmail.com>
Reply-To: James Kirby <kirbj712@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:55 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
James Kirby
603 Sigel St
Pittsburgh, PA 15207



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

gene kistler <genekistler@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:27 AM

Reply-To: gene kistler <genekistler@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
gene kistler
PO Box 211
Fayetteville, WV 25840



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Dan And Lilly Kittredge <dan.kittredge@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Dan And Lilly Kittredge <dan.kittredge@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:26 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Dan And Lilly Kittredge
7620 Eastridge Dr
La Mesa, CA 91941



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Amy Kobos <jiffygal@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Amy Kobos <jiffygal@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 1:01 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Amy Kobos
817 E PINTAIL CIR
Fresno, CA 93730



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robert Koch <angelskandy4u.04@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Robert Koch <angelskandy4u.04@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 3:56 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robert Koch
35 shiloh rdg rd
Pennsboro, WV 26415



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Elaine Komarow <elaine@siriusacupuncture.com>
Reply-To: Elaine Komarow <elaine@siriusacupuncture.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:58 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Elaine Komarow
201 Warden Lake Hollow
Vienna, VA 26851



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

doug krause <dougkrause@mts.net>
Reply-To: doug krause <dougkrause@mts.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:13 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
doug krause
3601 Maccorkle Ave SE PMB 129
Charleston, WV 25304



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Marjorie Laboy-Vagell <mlaboyvagell@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Marjorie Laboy-Vagell <mlaboyvagell@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 12:39 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Marjorie Laboy-Vagell
744 Stonipoll Lake Rd
Tolland, CT 06084



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Rick Landenberger <rlandenski@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Rick Landenberger <rlandenski@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Rick Landenberger
55 Marville St.
Morgantown, WV 26501



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

M Langelan <mjlangelan@gmail.com>
Reply-To: M Langelan <mjlangelan@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:37 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
M Langelan
7215 Chestnut St
Chevy Chase, MD 20815



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Pat LaStrapes <plastrapes@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Pat LaStrapes <plastrapes@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:22 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Pat LaStrapes
9703 Santa Monica Blvd
Houston, TX 77068



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Mark Leeson <matrix3399@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Mark Leeson <matrix3399@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 5:05 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Mark Leeson
44 Hickory Ct
Orwigsburg, PA 17961



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sarah Leming <Lemingsb@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sarah Leming <Lemingsb@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:32 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sarah Leming
109 Mulberry Lane
WARDENSVILLE, WV 26851



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Mark Leonard <mleonard8181@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Mark Leonard <mleonard8181@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:40 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Mark Leonard
2425 Bergamo Rd
Webster Springs, WV 26288



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Gary Leventhal <ghleventhal@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Gary Leventhal <ghleventhal@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:33 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Gary Leventhal
3013 Swansea a
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Mary Lickert <mar3356@citynet.net>
Reply-To: Mary Lickert <mar3356@citynet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:29 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I write to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

How about our health and tourism? The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to get sloppier on pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put us, tourism and wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits. You tell them to get it together!

I request that you, DEP, protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of a slovenly coal industry. They can clean up their act!!

You must maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Get it done!

Sincerely,
Mary Lickert
1002 Lee St.
Charleston, WV 25323



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

christine linton <cblinton@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: christine linton <cblinton@hotmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:47 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Money over the health of our streams is just wrong. please vote for keeping West Virginia's water wild, wonderful and clean.

Sincerely,
christine linton
663 Harner Run
morgantown, WV 26608



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Dorothy Lockett <dorothylockett@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Dorothy Lockett <dorothylockett@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:55 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Lockett
515 Linden Ave
Sistersville, WV 26175



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sharon Longyear <sharonmlongyear@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sharon Longyear <sharonmlongyear@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:44 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sharon Longyear
21 Rondout Hbr
Port Ewen, NY 12466



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Stephanie Lowenhaupt <slowenhaupt@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Stephanie Lowenhaupt <slowenhaupt@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 1:16 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Lowenhaupt
414 Key West Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22911



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Alanna Lowther-Smith <lowther2a@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Alanna Lowther-Smith <lowther2a@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 10:47 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Alanna Lowther-Smith
897 traction street
Clarksburg, WV 26301



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

steve lucas <slucas78704@gmail.com>
Reply-To: steve lucas <slucas78704@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 3:19 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
steve lucas
2708 Del Curto Rd
Austin, TX 78704



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

VICTORIA LYALL <victorialyall@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: VICTORIA LYALL <victorialyall@hotmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 11:27 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I am a native of WV and am horrified to hear that you are planning to allow MORE pollution in our beautiful state. It would be a horrible decision to increase the allowable amount of selenium in our water.

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
VICTORIA LYALL
671 Enka Lake Road
Candler, NC 28715



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jane Lyon <mountan6@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jane Lyon <mountan6@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:52 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jane Lyon
31 Arbor Ct.
Cotati, CA 94931



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Donald Mackler <dmackler@vt.edu>
Reply-To: Donald Mackler <dmackler@vt.edu>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 7:59 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Donald Mackler
214 Prospect St
Stacksburg, VA 24080



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

DENNIS MALONEY <dmaloney9@gmail.com>
Reply-To: DENNIS MALONEY <dmaloney9@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:19 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
DENNIS MALONEY
158 Vespucci Ln
Martinsburg, WV 25404



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Mary Mann <marymann29@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Mary Mann <marymann29@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:59 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Mary Mann
3 Norris Ln
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Samantha Marco <samanthajmarco@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Samantha Marco <samanthajmarco@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 2:24 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Samantha Marco
330 Courland St
Fairmont, WV 26554



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

diane marks <shenyen@wavecable.com>
Reply-To: diane marks <shenyen@wavecable.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 11:05 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
diane marks
728 Caroline St
Port Angeles, WA 98362



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Donna Martin <dmmartin@zoominternet.net>
Reply-To: Donna Martin <dmmartin@zoominternet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:08 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Donna Martin
52 Venetters Crk
Ranger, WV 25557



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Julie Martin <julamartin10@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Julie Martin <julamartin10@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:43 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Julie Martin
107 1st Ave N
Frederic, WI 54837



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kathryn Martin <kgrace35@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kathryn Martin <kgrace35@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 5:43 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly **OPPOSE** the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow **MORE DAMAGE** to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is **UNACCEPTABLE** to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I **URGE** DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

PLEASE MAINTAIN or **STRENGTHEN** the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and **REJECT** any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Martin
6 Woodbrook Ln
Bridgeport, WV 26330



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Joyce Mast <jmast@illinois.edu>
Reply-To: Joyce Mast <jmast@illinois.edu>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:09 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Joyce Mast
607 S Westlawn Ave
Champaign, IL 61821



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jennifer Maurizzio <fpjenn4989@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jennifer Maurizzio <fpjenn4989@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:40 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Maurizzio
6016 State Route 97
Narrowsburg, NY 12784



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jerry Mawhorter <head42446@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jerry Mawhorter <head42446@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:13 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jerry Mawhorter
200 Linden Ave
Royal Oak, MI 48073



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

David Maxfield <dkmaxfield@frontiernet.net>
Reply-To: David Maxfield <dkmaxfield@frontiernet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:36 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Big business can afford to do the right thing and do no harm.

Sincerely,
David Maxfield

Sincerely,
David Maxfield
70 Spanos Dr
Charles Town, WV 25414



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jim Maxwell <jmaxnrg@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jim Maxwell <jmaxnrg@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:57 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jim Maxwell
811 Stonehouse Rd
Rainelle, WV 25962



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Angela Mayle <Angela.Mayle13@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Angela Mayle <Angela.Mayle13@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:47 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Angela Mayle
477 Country Road
Fairview, WV 26570



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Teresa McBee <teresamcbee@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Teresa McBee <teresamcbee@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 12:26 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Teresa McBee
186 Harmony Ln
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Caephren McKenna <caephren@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Caephren McKenna <caephren@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 12:45 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Caephren McKenna
392 44th St
Oakland, CA 94608



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Mike McMillian <mmcmillian02@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Mike McMillian <mmcmillian02@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 12:41 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Mike McMillian
PO Box 37
Statyfork, WV 26291



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Michael Meadows <mwmeadows0924@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:03 PM

Reply-To: Michael Meadows <mwmeadows0924@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Michael Meadows
3030 Stamping Creek Road
Hillsboro, WV 24946



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robert A. Mertz <no1ramertz@gmail.com>
Reply-To: "Robert A. Mertz" <no1ramertz@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:59 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

As a west Virginia resident, retired science teacher and grandfather to four wonderful grandkids, I have much to protect from destruction of our spaceship planet's life support systems. Clean water is vital to life.

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robert A. Mertz
1205 Mulberry Ridge
Spencer, WV 25276



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sabrina Midkiff <midkiffsabrina@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sabrina Midkiff <midkiffsabrina@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:19 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sabrina Midkiff
29 Rhein Dr
Charleston, WV 25306



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jacqueline Mier <jcmier2@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jacqueline Mier <jcmier2@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:01 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

I volunteer weekly with the watershed group, Friends of Decker's Creek in Morgantown, WV. Being a resident of Mon County since 1978 I have seen and experienced firsthand the harm that raising the acidity levels of our rivers and streams can do to us, the fish, the life of WV rivers and streams. In the 70's, before raising standards on coal and industry run off, swimming in the rivers and lakes made my hair feel like straw. Now, with the dedicated help of the DEP and our many watershed groups in WV, my hair feels silky and soft. Their dedicated work brought life back to our rivers and streams. The return to cleaner rivers and streams has contributed to WV becoming known as a premier destination, not only for river and whitewater enthusiasts, but for family destinations. Our tourism is booming. Let's not undermine this new found economy with short sighted drop in water quality. Let's not go back to straw-like hair!!!

Sincerely,
Jacqueline Mier
264 Lubbuck Ln
Morgantown, WV 26608



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Donna Miller <donnamiller190@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Donna Miller <donnamiller190@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:43 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Donna Miller
1735 Stephens Fork Road
Mineral Wells, WV 26150



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sofia Montemayor-Thomas <cheetahsprinter@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sofia Montemayor-Thomas <cheetahsprinter@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:29 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sofia Montemayor-Thomas
21 Seneca Rd.
Acton, MA 01720



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Roberta Moore <1redsigg@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Roberta Moore <1redsigg@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:19 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Roberta Moore
8201 S Santa Fe Dr Lot 197
Littleton, CO 80120



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robert Moore <20daisy09@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Robert Moore <20daisy09@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:28 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robert Moore
1022 S Main St Apt A
Wake Forest, NC 27587



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Maria Louise Morandi Long Zwicker <wolfspiritm@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Maria Louise Morandi Long Zwicker <wolfspiritm@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:19 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Maria Louise Morandi Long Zwicker
3102 Neo Ln
Lake Worth, FL 33461



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Merri Morgan <merrismorgan@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Merri Morgan <merrismorgan@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:13 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Merri Morgan
PO Box 3
Greenville, WV 24945



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Paul Moss <paul@themailpath.com>
Reply-To: Paul Moss <paul@themailpath.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:20 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Paul Moss
1849 Whitaker St
Saint Paul, MN 55110



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

James Mulcare <jsmulcare52@gmail.com>
Reply-To: James Mulcare <jsmulcare52@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:57 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
James Mulcare
1110 Benjamin St
Clarksonton, WA 99403



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Diana Mullis <dianamullis7@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Diana Mullis <dianamullis7@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:44 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Diana Mullis
890 Cannon Hill Rd
Hedgesville, WV 25427



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ron Murrin <barkridge135@netzero.net>
Reply-To: Ron Murrin <barkridge135@netzero.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:58 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ron Murrin
10171 Middle Grave Creek Road
Glen Easton, WV 26039



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ron Murrin <barkridge135@netzero.net>
Reply-To: Ron Murrin <barkridge135@netzero.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:41 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ron Murrin
10171 Middle Grave Creek Rd
Glen Easton, WV 26039



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ron Murrin <barkridge135@netzero.net>
Reply-To: Ron Murrin <barkridge135@netzero.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ron Murrin
10171 Middle Grave Creek Rd
Glen Easton, WV 26039



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Debbie Naeter <debbienaeter50@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Debbie Naeter <debbienaeter50@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:27 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Debbie Naeter
375 Hillside Pass
Frankford, WV 24938



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Raquel Narvios <ssalino@sbcglobal.net>
Reply-To: Raquel Narvios <ssalino@sbcglobal.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:08 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Raquel Narvios
1425 Visitacion Ave
San Francisco, CA 94134



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Tem Narvios <winevitable@sbcglobal.net>
Reply-To: Tem Narvios <winevitable@sbcglobal.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 3:59 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Tem Narvios
1425 Visitacion Ave
San Francisco, CA 94134



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Maria Nasif <marianasif@me.com>
Reply-To: Maria Nasif <marianasif@me.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 3:07 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Maria Nasif
6601 N Longfellow Drive 6601 N. Longfellow Drive
Tucson, AZ 85718



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sue Nearing <dvs3pyny2@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sue Nearing <dvs3pyny2@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 12:21 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sue Nearing
5172 Hardy Rd
Vassar, MI 48768



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

L Leon Okes <lokes413@gmail.com>
Reply-To: L Leon Okes <lokes413@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:10 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
L Leon Okes
60 Willard Rd
Parkersburg, WV 26105



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Lock Pampel-Montague <lockpampelmontague@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Lock Pampel-Montague <lockpampelmontague@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 10:01 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Lock Pampel-Montague
112 Wilson St
Beckley, WV 25801



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Tari Pantaleo <tari@panrui.net>
Reply-To: Tari Pantaleo <tari@panrui.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:17 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Tari Pantaleo
311 Plainsboro Rd
Plainsboro, NJ 08536



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Katie Parker <katie.brook.parker@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Katie Parker <katie.brook.parker@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:54 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Katie Parker
420 Ellis Rd
Pottsville, AR 72858



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jocelyn Parris <jocelyncparris@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jocelyn Parris <jocelyncparris@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:51 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Parris
1305 Amador Lane
Taos, NM 87571



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jessica Pate <fxb772@duck.com>
Reply-To: Jessica Pate <fxb772@duck.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:38 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jessica Pate
475 Taylor ave
Akron, OH 44312



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ann Payne <paynestake@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ann Payne <paynestake@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:53 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

My family had been in WV since they came over the mountains on horseback with General Braddock. We have loved and cared for our state since then. Now we've all gone. You are a disgrace to allow money for the wealthy to further degrade our beautiful state and destroy the beauty and life that has thrived there for millenia. I don't know how you can live with yourself.

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ann Payne
10 Jesserong Dr
Middletown, MD 21769



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Karlette Peck <Karlettepeck@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Karlette Peck <Karlettepeck@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 8:56 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Karlette Peck
37 Jackson Street
Petersburg, WV 24963



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Dominic Percopo <domjohnjr@sbcglobal.net>
Reply-To: Dominic Percopo <domjohnjr@sbcglobal.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:43 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Dominic Percopo
100 Lakeview Ave
West Haven, CT 06516



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

kimberly pettit <info@dreamkeeperinn.com>
Reply-To: kimberly pettit <info@dreamkeeperinn.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:30 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
kimberly pettit
191 S 200 E
Moab, UT 84532



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Justin Philipps <jphilipps1259@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Justin Philipps <jphilipps1259@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:33 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Justin Philipps
1385 Independence Ct
Newark, OH 43055



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Meryl Pinque <merylpinque@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Meryl Pinque <merylpinque@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:50 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Meryl Pinque
615 Odlin Rd
Bangor, ME 04401



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Janeene Porcher <janeene52@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Janeene Porcher <janeene52@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 1:15 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Janeene Porcher
13568 W 23rd Pl
Golden, CO 80401



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sara Postlethwaite <spostlethwaite61@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sara Postlethwaite <spostlethwaite61@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 5:48 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sara Postlethwaite
190 Noahs landing
Aaronsburg, PA 16801



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Mike Povroznik <mpovroznik2@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Mike Povroznik <mpovroznik2@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:02 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Mike Povroznik
10767 Good Hope Pike
Jane Lew, WV 26378



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Carl Prellwitz <ccp.nhlife@gmail.com>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 12:38 PM

Reply-To: Carl Prellwitz <ccp.nhlife@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Carl Prellwitz
125 Main St Apt 37
Newmarket, NH 03857



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Bill Price <bill.price2011@gmail.com>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 2:33 PM

Reply-To: Bill Price <bill.price2011@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Bill Price
178 Laramey Rd
Crawford, WV 26343



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ali Printz <aliprintz@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ali Printz <aliprintz@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 4:23 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ali Printz
1378 Trough Rd
Shepherdstown, WV 25443



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Diane Quinlivan Quinlivan <dianequin87@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Diane Quinlivan Quinlivan <dianequin87@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 3:22 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Diane Quinlivan Quinlivan
4040 E 94th Ave
Thornton, CO 80229



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Le R <lerves@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:51 PM

Reply-To: Le R <lerves@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,

Le R

19934 Hickory Stick

Mokena, IL 60448



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Stephanie Ragusa <smragusa45@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Stephanie Ragusa <smragusa45@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 1:44 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Ragusa
1803 Sunrise Blvd
Clearwater, FL 33760



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sarah Ravary <saquaholic12@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Sarah Ravary <saquaholic12@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:06 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Sarah Ravary
94 Belmont Rd
Fayetteville, WV 25840



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robyn Reichert <robyn.reichert@palmbeachschools.org>
Reply-To: Robyn Reichert <robyn.reichert@palmbeachschools.org>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:40 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robyn Reichert
6916 Stoney Creek Circle
Lake Worth, FL 33467



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robyn Reichert <robyn.reichert@palmbeachschools.org>
Reply-To: Robyn Reichert <robyn.reichert@palmbeachschools.org>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 7:17 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robyn Reichert
6618 Stoney Creek Cir
Lake Worth, FL 33467



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robert Renfro <ngongpingrenfro@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Robert Renfro <ngongpingrenfro@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:38 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robert Renfro
5788 E 9th Ave
Denver, CO 80220



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Gerard Ridella <garidella@att.net>
Reply-To: Gerard Ridella <garidella@att.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:56 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

Without clean, safe water there are no communities, no people, no wildlife. The land, countryside, & people don't exist to work the coal. Or raise a family, & the land becomes barren as even the wildlife cannot survive. Is that the outcome this industry is trying to achieve?

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Gerard Ridella
8014 SE Morrison St
Portland, OR 97216



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Susan Riker Kilgore <srktraveler@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Susan Riker Kilgore <srktraveler@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:39 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Susan Riker Kilgore
39 Ceperley Ave
Oneonta, NY 13820



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Charles Rinear <ckrinear@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Charles Rinear <ckrinear@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:07 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Charles Rinear
267 Essex Ave
West Deptford, NJ 08088



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Michael Ritchey <mrmritchey@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Michael Ritchey <mrmritchey@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 7:19 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Michael Ritchey
560 cove lick
Weston, WV 26452



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

James Roberts <jsr72748@gmail.com>
Reply-To: James Roberts <jsr72748@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 11:46 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
James Roberts
3438A Granada Ave
Dallas, TX 75205



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Frank Rodgers <frodgers@cacaponinstitute.org>
Reply-To: Frank Rodgers <frodgers@cacaponinstitute.org>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:11 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

Clean water is life.

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Frank Rodgers
10 Rockford Road
Great Cacapon, WV 25422



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kevin Rolfes <kevin@rolfes.org>
Reply-To: Kevin Rolfes <kevin@rolfes.org>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:08 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kevin Rolfes
14006 N Green Hills Loop
Austin, TX 78737



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Raul Romero <raulromero0711@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Raul Romero <raulromero0711@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:27 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Raul Romero
1345 Maple Ave
Berwyn, IL 60402



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Rebecca Romine <bromine@citynet.net>
Reply-To: Rebecca Romine <bromine@citynet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:42 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Romine
345 Cloverfield Ln
Lewisburg, WV 24601



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Steven M Rosenberg <sunydays33304@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Steven M Rosenberg <sunydays33304@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:37 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Steven M Rosenberg
2424 Parkview Drive 10P
San Angelo, TX 76904



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Michael Ross <ross1458@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Michael Ross <ross1458@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:11 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Michael Ross
2208 Donald Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25701



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jody Ross <jody0660@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jody Ross <jody0660@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:09 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jody Ross
2208 Donald Ave
Huntington, WV 25701



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jay Rowan <doc@paolivet.com>
Reply-To: Jay Rowan <doc@paolivet.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:41 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

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I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jay Rowan
1476 Lancaster Ave
Paoli, PA 19301



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jay Rowan <doc@paolivet.com>
Reply-To: Jay Rowan <doc@paolivet.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 11:00 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jay Rowan
1476 Lancaster Ave
Paoli, PA 19301



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Patricia Rowell <rowellpat3@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Patricia Rowell <rowellpat3@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:47 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Patricia Rowell
1520 Grassymeade Lane
Alexandria, VA 22308



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kate Ruland <kateyruland@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kate Ruland <kateyruland@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:38 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kate Ruland
246 Robert Harkins Dr
Suwanee, GA 30072



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

STEVEN RUNFOLA <stevenrunfola@gmail.com>
Reply-To: STEVEN RUNFOLA <stevenrunfola@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:55 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

Hello. I am a WV resident. I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
STEVEN RUNFOLA
45 Park Ridge Drive
Morgantown, WV 26508



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Robert Rutkowski <r_e_rutkowski@att.net>
Reply-To: Robert Rutkowski <r_e_rutkowski@att.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:10 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Robert Rutkowski
2527 SE Faxon Court
Topeka, KS 66606



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Edie M Sadowski <edie.sadowski@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Edie M Sadowski <edie.sadowski@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:00 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Edie M Sadowski
4 Rutgers Ct Apt 3D
Belleville, NJ 07109



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Susan Sauter <stsauter@frontiernet.net>
Reply-To: Susan Sauter <stsauter@frontiernet.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:52 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

From Preston County, we've fought so hard to bring health back to the Cheat River, water we drink, recreate in, and in which so many other creatures rely. So I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

I'm certain you know selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways. Please protect us!!!!

Sincerely,
Susan Sauter
1932 Girl Scout Camp Rd
Bruceston Mills, WV 26525



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

John Savage <themordok47@gmail.com>
Reply-To: John Savage <themordok47@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:40 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Anything that can cause damage to any part of the food chain is dangerous to humans either by transference or by limiting access to foods. In these days of food and healthcare insecurity this could hurt many West Virginians.

Sincerely,
John Savage
285 Kaitlyn Way
Augusta, WV 26704



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Marian Scena <mangua.mrs63@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Marian Scena <mangua.mrs63@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 11:51 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Marian Scena
179 Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02143



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kay Schultz <kay.nixschultz@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kay Schultz <kay.nixschultz@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 5:42 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kay Schultz
78 Shepherd Village Cir
Shepherdstown, WV 25443



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Madison Sharer <madison.sharer418@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Madison Sharer <madison.sharer418@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:54 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Madison Sharer
10722 Brailon Court
Williamsport, MD 21795



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Lynn Shoemaker <shoemakl@uww.edu>
Reply-To: Lynn Shoemaker <shoemakl@uww.edu>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:32 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Lynn Shoemaker
172 N Esterly Ave
Whitewater, WI 53190



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Linda Silversmith <lindas@capaccess.org>
Reply-To: Linda Silversmith <lindas@capaccess.org>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:02 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose -- the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl.

Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it.

This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Linda Silversmith
260 New Mark Esplanade
Rockville, MD 20850



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Loki Simmons <loulabellesimmons7@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Loki Simmons <loulabellesimmons7@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:57 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Loki Simmons
355 S Main St
Sharon, MA 02067



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kate Skolnick <krs1123@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kate Skolnick <krs1123@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 7:39 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kate Skolnick
40 W. 116th St., A1206
New York, NY 10026



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Francis Slider <francis.slider@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Francis Slider <francis.slider@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:13 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Francis Slider
PO Box 131
Davis, WV 26260



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Judith Smallwood <jsmallwood2@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Judith Smallwood <jsmallwood2@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:39 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Judith Smallwood
218 Chestnut Farm Ln
Lewisburg, WV 24901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Brett Smith <brettalexandersmith1996@tutamail.com>
Reply-To: Brett Smith <brettalexandersmith1996@tutamail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:07 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Brett Smith
621 Main Street
Charleston, WV 25302



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Deidra Smith <dearauntmarilyn@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Deidra Smith <dearauntmarilyn@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:48 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Deidra Smith
1963 Hyde Dr
Loveland, CO 80538



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Erin Snook <erinlsnook@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Erin Snook <erinlsnook@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:01 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm an aquatic ecologist living in West Virginia and I am writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Erin Snook
26 Powder Mill Ct
Inwood, WV 25428



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Lucinda Snow <cindys369@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Lucinda Snow <cindys369@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 5:29 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

As a long time avid lover of paddling West Virginia rivers, I am writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in West Virginia streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to Wha streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Lucinda Snow
20537 Amethyst Ln
Germantown, MD 20874



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Teresa A Sopher <fruitpancakes@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Teresa A Sopher <fruitpancakes@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:27 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Teresa A Sopher
1104 Maxwell Hill Rd
Beekley, WV 25801



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Hannah Spencer <hspencer22@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Hannah Spencer <hspencer22@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:37 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Hannah Spencer
141 Bessie Hill Drive
Lewisburg, WV 24901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Paula Stahl <paulastahl59@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Paula Stahl <paulastahl59@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 7:32 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02). I swing and play in these waters regularly.

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Paula Stahl
301 Pineview Drive
Thomas, WV 26292



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Margaret Stange <maggie.stange@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Margaret Stange <maggie.stange@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:17 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Margaret Stange
92 Nolan St
Fayetteville, WV 25840



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Lorenz Steininger <schreibdemstein@posteo.de>
Reply-To: Lorenz Steininger <schreibdemstein@posteo.de>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:05 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Lorenz Steininger
main st
stafford, VA 22554



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Erika Stokes <eestokes@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Erika Stokes <eestokes@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:33 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

Please protect our water and wildlife,\$

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Erika Stokes
117 Grandview ave.
Elkins, WV 26241



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kelli Stotts <kellistotts@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kelli Stotts <kellistotts@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 10:17 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kelli Stotts
3003 Staunion Rd
Huntington, WV 25702



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

James Stratman PhD <cirquejs12@gmail.com>
Reply-To: James Stratman PhD <cirquejs12@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:52 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
James Stratman PhD
1150 Inca Street #37
Denver, CO 80204



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Sissie Summers <sissiesummers4719@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:49 PM

Reply-To: Sissie Summers <sissiesummers4719@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to oppose the raising the limit on selenium pollution in our WV waters/streams. With most folks in DEP and other state agencies at the will and pleasure to the administration, it is a long shot to go against the grain but I encourage opposition to increasing the limits. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sissie Summers

1230 Highland Drive

Saint Albans, WV 25177



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Rina Sunar <rinasunaresh@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Rina Sunar <rinasunaresh@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:52 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Rina Sunar
882 Bent Creek Dr
Lnitz, PA 17543



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kerstin Sutton <kerstin.howard.22@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kerstin Sutton <kerstin.howard.22@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:34 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

My children, grandchildren, and I rely on your organization to do your protective job.

Sincerely,
Kerstin Sutton
201 Hidden Valley Dr
Oak Hill, WV 25901



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Carrie Swank <caswank1@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Carrie Swank <caswank1@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:57 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Carrie Swank
66 Michigan Dr
Reading, PA 19608



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Ruth Swenson <ruthannaswenson@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ruth Swenson <ruthannaswenson@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:08 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Ruth Swenson
11 Willow
Helena, MT 59602



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Merrily Taylor <taytaywv@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Merrily Taylor <taytaywv@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:10 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Merrily Taylor
111 COOKTOWN RD
Buckeye, WV 24924



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Meredith Taylor <leigh.taylor197@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Meredith Taylor <leigh.taylor197@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Meredith Taylor
58 Bridgeport Ln
Charleston, WV 25312



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

James Thoman <jrthoman1410@gmail.com>
Reply-To: James Thoman <jrthoman1410@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:55 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
James Thoman
4047 Mill Rd
Hermitage, TN 37076



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Deanna Thomas <SomewhereInWestVirginia@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Deanna Thomas <SomewhereInWestVirginia@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:57 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Deanna Thomas
1650 Pennsylvania Ave
Fairmont, WV 26554



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

David Thompson <deborah.thompson54@gmail.com>
Reply-To: David Thompson <deborah.thompson54@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:29 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
David Thompson
408 Daisy Trail Road, Cool Ridge, WV, USA
Cool Ridge, WV 25825



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Stacy Tritt <stacymtritt@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Stacy Tritt <stacymtritt@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:03 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

As a United Methodist Pastor, I would remind my Christian siblings that God charges humanity with being good stewards of creation in the book of Genesis. Raising the allowable amount of selenium pollution in our water ways will hurt all of God's creation.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Stacy Tritt
28 North St Ste A
Morgantown, WV 26501



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Elizabeth Tuminski <ftuminski57@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Elizabeth Tuminski <ftuminski57@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 5:53 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Tuminski
47 Hidden Brook Dr
Stamford, CT 06907



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Michael Turner <mtp54@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Michael Turner <mtp54@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 11:10 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Michael Turner
207 E Walker Street
Fayetteville, WV 25840



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Joe Tutt <jtbass654@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Joe Tutt <jtbass654@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:58 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Joe Tutt
504 Paddy st
Mesquite, TX 75149



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Abigail Tyler <abigailinnature@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Abigail Tyler <abigailinnature@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:55 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Abigail Tyler
126 Middletown St
Richwood, WV 26261



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Judith Underwood <judirhodes@outlook.com>
Reply-To: Judith Underwood <judirhodes@outlook.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:02 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Judith Underwood
2215 Pineview
Parkersburg, WV 26104



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Patrice Wallace <patricewallace@cruzio.com>
Reply-To: Patrice Wallace <patricewallace@cruzio.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 1:31 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Patrice Wallace
5498 Coast Rd
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Joan Ward <jward58libra@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Joan Ward <jward58libra@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:27 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Joan Ward
234 Henry Cowgill Road
Camden Wyoming, DE 19934



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Thomas Ward <tward5059@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Thomas Ward <tward5059@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 5:03 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Thomas Ward
9 London Ln
Williamstown, WV 26187



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Harold Watson <watsonh1956@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Harold Watson <watsonh1956@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Harold Watson
2228 W Farm Road 98
Springfield, MO 65803



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kelly Weaver <kellyweaver24@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kelly Weaver <kellyweaver24@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 5:05 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kelly Weaver
425 Sunshine Rd
Weston, WV 26452



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Dawn Weidner <dawnweidner@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Dawn Weidner <dawnweidner@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:42 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

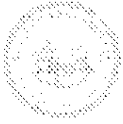
Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Dawn Weidner
20 Edgewood Pl
Parkersburg, WV 26104



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

David Wendt <dvdwndt@gmail.com>
Reply-To: David Wendt <dvdwndt@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 9:49 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
David Wendt
430 North Civic Drive #412
Walnut Creek, CA 94596



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jeremy Wenisch <jeremypwenisch@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jeremy Wenisch <jeremypwenisch@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 3:38 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

As a resident of southern West Virginia, I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Wenisch
1015 Lilly St.
Princeton, WV 24740



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Katelyn Westfall <kwestfallm@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Katelyn Westfall <kwestfallm@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 11:07 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Katelyn Westfall
2302 Elm St
Parkersburg, WV 26101



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kimberly White <kimberly.noelle.white@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Kimberly White <kimberly.noelle.white@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:18 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that causes severe harm to ALL OF US!!! If the waters, plants, and animals are hurting, so are WE. Humans are not separate from nature, we are apart of it and should prioritize protecting it, for the health of future generations. Many people living in southern WV have no access to clean water as it is, what outcome do you think allowing more pollution is going to have?

I urge DEP to protect life and uphold science-based standards and stand up for the health of West Virginia!

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kimberly White
6505 Gatewood Rd
Fayetteville, WV 25840



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Preston White <whitepreston@hotmail.com>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 1:43 PM

Reply-To: Preston White <whitepreston@hotmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Preston White
187 Cedarglen Ln
Princeton, WV 24739



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Phil White <senecaslim59@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Phil White <senecaslim59@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 6:54 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Phil White
863 Westminister Way
Charleston, WV 25314



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kayla Whited <kaylawhited@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 9:36 AM

Reply-To: Kayla Whited <kaylawhited@gmail.com>

To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kayla Whited
778 BELLVIEW ESTATE ROAD
FRANKFORD, WV 24938



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Glen Williams <glen.r.williams@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Glen Williams <glen.r.williams@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 2:06 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Glen Williams
5620 US Highway 12
Yakima, WA 98908



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Carole Williams <cwilli22@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Carole Williams <cwilli22@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 3:49 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Carole Williams
2223 Heritage Point
Morgantown, WV 26505



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Vicki Williamson <vicki2@frontier.com>
Reply-To: Vicki Williamson <vicki2@frontier.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 8:51 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Vicki Williamson
80 Richmond Dr
Huntington, WV 25705



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Callie Willis <cwillis@gmavt.net>
Reply-To: Callie Willis <cwillis@gmavt.net>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 8:23 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Callie Willis
125 Old Orchard Way
Warren, VT 05674



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Martha Wine <martywine13@icloud.com>
Reply-To: Martha Wine <martywine13@icloud.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 12:24 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Martha Wine
300 Angel Pt
Summersville, WV 26035



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Darlene Wolf <blackfoot1@protonmail.com>
Reply-To: Darlene Wolf <blackfoot1@protonmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Darlene Wolf
1705 Gordon Dr
Naples, FL 34102



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Terry Wolfe <tawinvestments@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Terry Wolfe <tawinvestments@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 7:41 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Terry Wolfe
1199 E 3rd St
Morgantown, WV 26508



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

April Woods <ms.april.woods@gmail.com>
Reply-To: April Woods <ms.april.woods@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:26 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

America dies cuz our leaders suck, all they do is corruption and count their money behind the scenes, meanwhile America continues to die. Save Nature, screw the idiots in WA. I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
April Woods
5716 Kermyhill Dr
Anchorage, AK 99504



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Amber Yeager <amberrys@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Amber Yeager <amberrys@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 10:27 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms and fish, causing severe and irreparable damage. It takes years to reverse this kind of damage. To claim there is no immediate risk to human health lacks foresight and care for future generations. It absolutely will have an impact on human health as we are part of a connected ecosystem. Wildlife and humans alike rely on clean, healthy streams and to allow this will have devastating effects on the entire ecosystem for decades to come. They say, "when you know better, you do better" and we DO know better so we MUST act to stop this. I grew up fishing and swimming in the streams of West Virginia and want to see clean, healthy streams for future generations.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Amber Yeager
25
Ellensburg, WA 98926



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Kathe Garbrick <femmekatz@rchsks.org>
Reply-To: Kathe Garbrick <femmekatz@rchsks.org>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:07 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Kathe Garbrick
2844 Keats Ave
Manhattan, KS 66503



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Jim Phillips <jimandjudyphillips@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Jim Phillips <jimandjudyphillips@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sun, Jul 20, 2025 at 7:58 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

When will you folks use common sense instead of going for common cents. Actually, it's dollars you are after. We all need clean water. I assume that includes you. Can we add selenium to your water supply and see how you like it? Your money is not that good.

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Jim Phillips
PO Box 206
Pipestem, WV 25979



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on Proposed Rule Changes to Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Linda Prostko <lprostko@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Linda Prostko <lprostko@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Sat, Jul 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM

Dear Dawn Newell,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limit on selenium pollution in our streams, as outlined in the Rules Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

Selenium is a well-known pollutant from coal mining that builds up in aquatic organisms, causing severe harm to fish and waterfowl. Although it may not pose an immediate risk to human health, it has devastating effects on wildlife, particularly species that rely on clean streams for survival.

The coal industry's request to loosen these limits amounts to an effort to legalize ongoing pollution instead of addressing it. This change would allow more damage to our streams and ecosystems, particularly in areas already burdened by mining activity. It is unacceptable to put wildlife at risk to serve polluter profits.

I urge DEP to protect aquatic life and uphold science-based standards, not weaken them for the benefit of the coal industry.

Please maintain or strengthen the current selenium limits in the 2026 Water Quality Standards and reject any attempts to weaken protections for West Virginia's waterways.

Sincerely,
Linda Prostko
7875 Marsh Hollow Drive
Middleville, MI 49333



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on the Following Changes to Legislative Rules: Requirements Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Joanne Bario <joannebario@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Joanne Bario <joannebario@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 10:04 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

As someone who cares deeply about clean, safe water for West Virginia, I am writing to oppose the weakening of West Virginia's Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

West Virginia has a long-standing practice of applying Category A protections to most surface waters, ensuring that current and future drinking water sources are protected. Creating a process to remove these protections, as proposed by House Bill 2233, would allow more pollution in our streams and rivers, placing the burden of costly treatment on local water utilities and threatening the health of our communities.

We know that water flows downstream. Removing Category A protections for certain streams does not stop that pollution from eventually reaching drinking water supplies. These changes jeopardize our access to safe drinking water and could hinder future economic development by making it harder for businesses to relocate to areas with clean, abundant water.

I urge WVDEP to:

- + Maintain Category A protections for all surface waters as future drinking water sources.
- + Clearly explain the criteria for any proposed removal of Category A protections.
- + Account for downstream impacts on public water systems.
- + Ensure robust public involvement in all decisions regarding Category A removals.

Implementing these rule changes without meaningful input from West Virginians raises serious concerns about transparency and public trust. It's essential that West Virginians have a real opportunity to engage in decisions that directly affect our health, environment, and future.

Please put the health of West Virginians and the future of our water resources first.

We need pure water to live, to raise our families, to protect our children and grandchildren. Please act to protect the health of vulnerable West Virginians.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Joanne Bario
84 Sage Pl
Shepherdstown, WV 25443



Newell, Dawn A <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Comments on the Following Changes to Legislative Rules: Requirements Governing Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02)

1 message

Penelope Gobar <sunrisesister343@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Penelope Gobar <sunrisesister343@gmail.com>
To: Dawn Newell <dawn.a.newell@wv.gov>

Thu, Jul 17, 2025 at 6:24 PM

Dear Dawn Newell,

As someone who cares deeply about clean, safe water for West Virginia, I am writing to oppose the weakening of West Virginia's Water Quality Standards (47 CSR 02).

West Virginia has a long-standing practice of applying Category A protections to most surface waters, ensuring that current and future drinking water sources are protected. Creating a process to remove these protections, as proposed by House Bill 2233, would allow more pollution in our streams and rivers, placing the burden of costly treatment on local water utilities and threatening the health of our communities.

We know that water flows downstream. Removing Category A protections for certain streams does not stop that pollution from eventually reaching drinking water supplies. These changes jeopardize our access to safe drinking water and could hinder future economic development by making it harder for businesses to relocate to areas with clean, abundant water.

I urge WVDEP to:

- + Maintain Category A protections for all surface waters as future drinking water sources.
- + Clearly explain the criteria for any proposed removal of Category A protections.
- + Account for downstream impacts on public water systems.
- + Ensure robust public involvement in all decisions regarding Category A removals.

Implementing these rule changes without meaningful input from West Virginians raises serious concerns about transparency and public trust. It's essential that West Virginians have a real opportunity to engage in decisions that directly affect our health, environment, and future.

Please put the health of West Virginians and the future of our water resources first.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Penelope Gobar
343 Sunrise Park
Sylva, NC 28779

In the Matter Of:

WEST VIRGINIA DEPT. OF ENVIRON. PROTECTION

PUBLIC HEARING

July 08, 2025



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WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Transcription of Video:

Public Hearing

Date: July 8, 2025

Runtime: 14:28

1 (Beginning of Recording)

2 MS. ERNEST: Chris, if you don't mind.

3 Great, you already started recording. Good. Good
4 evening, my name is Nicole Ernest with the West
5 Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.
6 Welcome to the DEP's virtual public hearing for the
7 Division of Water and Waste Management's 2026 proposed
8 legislative rules 33CSR20, relating to the hazardous
9 waste management system, 47CSR2, requirements
10 governing water quality standards, and 47CSR9B,
11 establishing carbon dioxide sequestration fee
12 schedule.

13 With me tonight is staff from the Division
14 of Water and Waste Management, including Yogesh Patel
15 and Johnsely Cyrus with Permitting, and Mindy Neil,
16 Don Newell, and Chris Smith with Water Quality
17 Assessment and Standards.

18 The purpose for this public hearing is to
19 give you the opportunity to share your comments or
20 information about these proposed rules with the DEP.
21 To ensure we have an accurate record of everyone
22 attending this evening, we ask that you please provide
23 your name and contact information in the meeting chat.
24 You can do that by clicking the small text bubble icon
25 in the bottom right corner of your screen.

1 This hearing is being recorded, so that the
2 comments you share, can be taken into consideration,
3 and entered into public record for these rules. All
4 comments submitted before the end of the comment
5 period, including those provided here tonight, will be
6 made part of the public record.

7 The comment period for the proposed rules
8 has been extended and ends at 5 p.m. on July 21st,
9 2025. Please, please note that comments can be
10 submitted via regular mail and email. Written
11 comments on 33CSR20, may be emailed or mailed to John
12 -- Johnseely Cyrus. Written comments on 42CSR2, may be
13 emailed or mailed to Don Newell. Written comments on
14 47CSR9B, may be emailed or mailed to Yogesh Patel.

15 I've added this information to the meeting
16 chat, which you can access by clicking the small text
17 bubble icon in the bottom right corner of your screen.
18 It is also on the screen for you to view. To ensure
19 that we successfully achieve the purpose of this
20 hearing, we ask that everyone be respectful and
21 considerate of each other, by refraining from using
22 foul language, name calling, and interrupting others
23 while they are speaking.

24 We also ask that you keep your comments on
25 the topic of these proposed rules, so that our time

1 together is used efficiently. Each commenter will be
2 given five minutes to speak. If time allows, we'll
3 circle back to previous commenters to allow for
4 additional testimony. If you have written comments in
5 addition to your oral comments, please email them to
6 the appropriate WVDEP contact I mentioned earlier.
7 Thank you for bearing with me through these opening
8 remart [sic] -- remarks and instructions.

9 We will now open the floor for commenters.
10 If you'd like to provide comments, please use the
11 raised hand feature and we will call on you. When
12 called upon, please state your name, any organizations
13 you represent, and which proposed rule or rules you
14 are commenting on. Jason Bostik, the floor's open.

15 MR. BOSTIK: Well it would help if I turn my
16 microphone on, wouldn't it. Sorry about that. Good
17 evening and thank you for the opportunity to offer
18 comments regarding the proposed revisions to the
19 state's water quality standards rule 47CSR2. My name
20 is Jason Bostik, and I am the Executive Vice President
21 of the West Virginia Coal Association.

22 At the outset, the association would like to
23 compliment the Division of Water and Race [sic] --
24 Waste Management for the continuing level of
25 professionalism, technical competency, and public

1 outreach the agency has brought to the water quality
2 standard program of the state, since assuming those
3 rulemaking responsibilities from the Environmental
4 Quality Board.

5 We believe the current proposal under 47CSR2
6 is further evidence of that competency in the agency's
7 commitment to rational and technically sound changes
8 to state water quality standards. The revisions to
9 the state selenium standard proposed in the current
10 package, are fully supported by the association in our
11 membership, and are completely justified by the body
12 of science regarding selenium and fish populations in
13 West Virginia streams and rivers.

14 As we did when a similar revision was
15 offered as a sight specific standard last year, the
16 association will be filing very detailed technical
17 comments supporting the change as part of the written
18 comment period. Thank you for the chance to speak in
19 favor of the proposed selenium criteria changes, and
20 we look forward to working with the agency as the
21 revisions are finalized and reviewed by the
22 legislature in 2026.

23 MS. ERNEST: Thank you, Jason. Is there
24 anybody else wishing to make comment? Please use the
25 raised hand feature. Thank you, Than, the floor is

1 open.

2 MR. HITT: Thank you all. My name is
3 Nathaniel Hitt. My nickname is Than, T-H-A-N, and I
4 serve as the Senior Scientist with the West Virginia
5 Rivers Coalition. Today I'd like to bring a series of
6 questions to you. We will be providing our written
7 comments on, on 47CSR2 by the July 15 deadline.

8 But today I bring to you a series of, of
9 questions more than conclusions. I really do
10 appreciate this space and I, I appreciate you all for,
11 for hosting this space, because as a, as a researcher
12 in this field, I want to know how our research
13 actually reflects your regulatory reality. I bring to
14 you a couple questions.

15 First, I noticed that with, with respect to
16 process, I, I noticed that in your, in the letter
17 provided by DEP, the effective date for this change
18 was listed as July 1st, 2025. I'm curious how that
19 could be promulgated before the, the public process,
20 and before the review. So, maybe that's a typo, but
21 in the letter that you provided, 47CSR02 had an
22 effective date of July 1st, 2025. That may be a typo.
23 Let's follow-up on that.

24 But to the, but to the merits, the proposed
25 change would focus on sturgeon, and I want to know

1 why. Sturgeon is a fantastic species. It's, it's an
2 American icon, but in West Virginia, it doesn't seem
3 to be all that relevant. Now DNR is attempting to, to
4 recover sturgeon and hats off to their efforts, but
5 I'm not sure that sturgeon is the appropriate species
6 to develop water quality standards based on, and so we
7 will be following up with that. Is it arbitrary?
8 Maybe, maybe not. Let's, let's talk about that.

9 Also, I'm curious about the sampling
10 protocols. If you are to increase the criterion from
11 8 to 9.5 micrograms per gram in non-sturgeon waters,
12 I'm curious about how that would affect the sampling
13 protocols, because we have demonstrated, I'm gonna put
14 this in the chat, we've written a paper 2015, CTAC
15 (phonetic), that demonstrated that as you increase the
16 standard, you need more individuals -- you need to
17 sample more fish to actually detect the standard, and,
18 and that's because as DEP data conclusively identifies
19 them, we've shown in this paper, anything above a, as
20 the, as the average concentration of selenium and fish
21 con -- tissue concentrations in the communities goes
22 up, the variance goes up.

23 So you need to sample more individuals to
24 account, to account for that. And so I'm curious
25 about how this proposed change will affect the

1 requirements for sampling, or, alternatively, DEP
2 could accept less statistical power to detect an
3 effect. If that's the case, acknowledge it, and, and
4 then, and, and that would be transparent.

5 So, to review, I have a process question
6 regarding the effective date of this rulemaking. It's
7 listed as July 1, doesn't seem coherent given that
8 we're meeting after that. And, and I have a question
9 on, on the merits regarding the, the, the focus on
10 sturgeon. I'm not sure that makes a lot of sense
11 here. I'd like to see some more evidence for that.
12 And third, on process with respect to sampling. I
13 mean, excuse me. Third, with respect to sampling
14 protocols, I'd like to see how this, how this may
15 affect the requirements for sample size in these fish
16 communities, cause we can show conclusively, that as
17 the average concentration goes up, the variance goes
18 up.

19 In other words, individuals are different,
20 and we don't know exactly why this is. It's
21 interesting from a science perspective. Maybe some
22 individuals are eating at different trophic levels.
23 Maybe some individuals are accessing different
24 exposures in, in, in habitats. We don't know, but we
25 do know from DEP data, that the average concentration

1 of selenium and fish con -- tissue concentrations for
2 communities, as that goes up, the amount of variation
3 among individuals goes up as well.

4 Those are important considerations, and like
5 I said, we will be providing our, our technical
6 comments on this issue by the July 15 deadline. And I
7 do appreciate your all's time and attention to this.
8 This is really important stuff. So, those are my
9 remarks. Thanks. Thanks for your time.

10 MS. ERNEST: Thank you so much, and my
11 apologies for mispronouncing your name. Thank you.
12 Is there anybody else who would like to make comments?
13 If so, please use the raised hand feature. Mindy, the
14 floor is open. Mindy did you have a question or
15 comment?

16 MS. NEIL: Oh, Nicole, I'm so sorry.

17 MS. ERNEST: That's okay.

18 MS. NEIL: Jason (inaudible) me, cause I was
19 muted the entire time. No, I wanted to speak up.
20 Than had mentioned the comment period ending on July
21 15th. That had been the original plan. There was a,
22 a hold up with our publication and so Terry Fletcher
23 had asked that we announce at this meeting that the
24 comment period for 472 extends until July 21st. So
25 472 extends a bit longer, if that makes sense.

1 We are required to have a 45 day period,
2 and, and again, I apologize Nicole if you've already
3 mentioned that. I just kind of want to clarify that
4 since, since Than had mentioned it. So July 21st is
5 when that comment period closes for 472.

6 MS. ERNEST: Thank you. Is there anyone else
7 who would like to make a comment? If so, please use
8 the raised hand feature. Going once. Going twice.
9 And last chance. If there are no more commenters, we
10 will close the virtual public hearing for the Division
11 of Water and Waste Management's 2026 proposed
12 legislative rules 33CSR2, relating to the hazardous
13 waste management system, 47CSR2, requirements
14 governing water quality standards, and 47CSR9B,
15 establishing carbon dioxide sequestration fee
16 schedule.

17 Again, please make sure your name and
18 contact information are in the meeting chat. Written
19 comments can be submitted using the mailing and email
20 address on the screen. The comment period closes at 5
21 p.m. on July 21st, 2025. Thank you very much for your
22 interest, and for taking time to attend this hearing.
23 Have a good meeting -- or have a good evening, sorry.

24 (End of Recording)

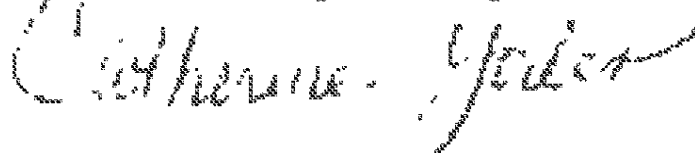
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST

I, CATHERINE YODER, hereby certify that I was authorized to and did transcribe the provided recording and that the foregoing transcript is a true transcript of said electronic recording to the best of my ability.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorneys or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 22nd day of July, 2025.



Catherine Yoder

PUBLIC HEARING
WEST VIRGINIA DEPT. OF ENVIRON. PROTECTION

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