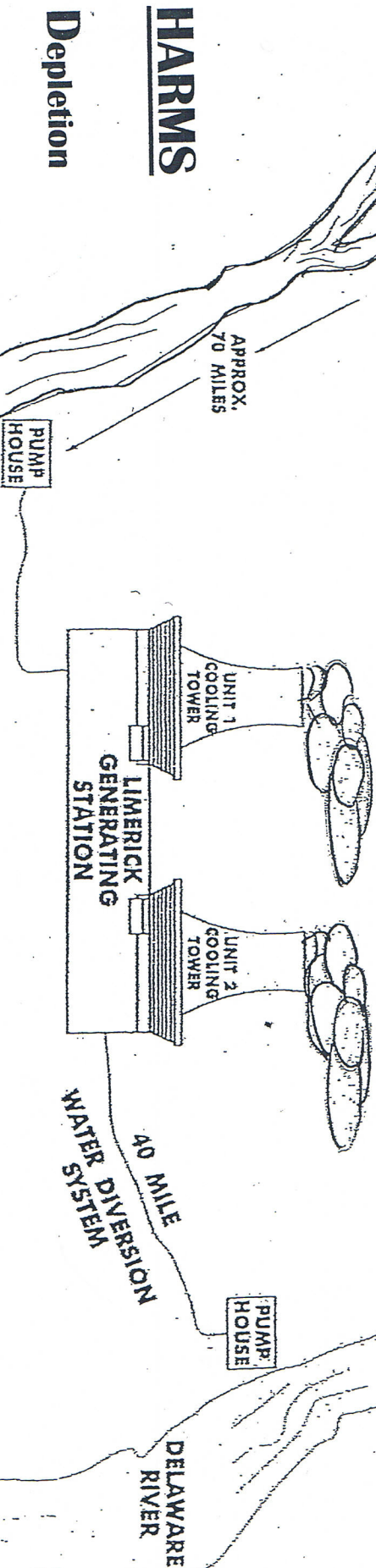


Limerick Nuclear Plant's

Toxic Assault On The Schuylkill River A Vital Drinking Water Source

35 to 42 Million Gallons Per Day
River Water Released Into Air From Cooling Towers



HARMS

Depletion

Heated Discharges

Radioactive Discharges

Other Toxic Discharges

Toxic Mine Water Pumping

- Limerick Nuclear Plant Is:
- ✓ Lowering Schuylkill River Flow By Billions Of Gallons Each Year
 - ✓ Contaminating The River With Billions Of Gallons Of Radioactive, Heated Discharges
 - ✓ Pumping Into The River At The Headwaters Unfiltered Contaminated Mine Pit Water

Recipe For Disaster Lower Flows - Increased Contamination

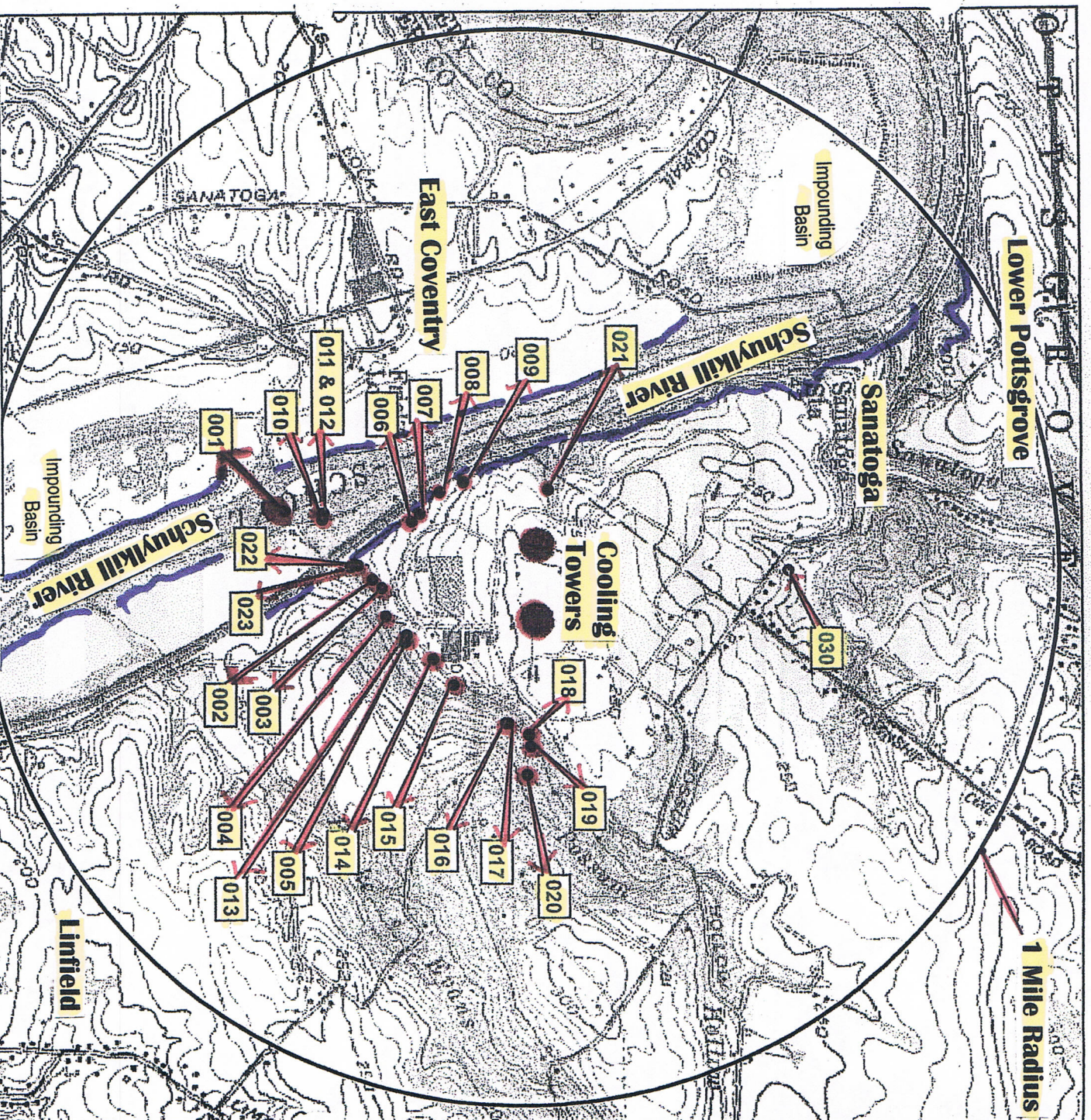
The Schuylkill River Is A Vital Public Drinking Water Source For Almost 2 Million People From Pottstown To Philadelphia.

Billions of Gallons of Contaminated Mine Water Were Pumped Into the River
To Operate Limerick Nuclear Plant. Exelon Wants to Pump Billions More!

Public Hearing
Coming Soon

Protect The River!
Ask For Filtration

24 Discharge Points From Limerick



ANOTHER VIEW

Nuclear plant poses threat to drinking water

started operating in 1985, for 2011 Limerick per-

mitting.

DEF decisions could further jeopardize public health and increase costs for water systems and their customers. ACE reviewed Limerick's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Renewal and Exelon's Radiological Monitoring Reports to NRC. Together, they're alarming. We sent DEF a 23-page document expressing concerns, asking questions, and making suggestions to minimize harms. We await written responses.

Limerick Nuclear Plant's extraordinary toxic threats to drinking water, increased costs for water, and public health risks could all be minimized. But that will take willingness to face the facts and courage to take action. ACE suggestions for actions needed:

1. DEF should deny Exelon's request for increases in pollution permit limits four times higher than Safe Drinking Water Standards, and instead require Exelon to filter Limerick's discharges. This would avoid increased costs to water treatment systems and their customers.

2. DEF and DRBC should deny Exelon's request to eliminate Schuylkill River temperature restrictions. This would avoid unnecessary permanent damage to Schuylkill River ecosystems and minimize threats to the public.

3. DRBC should say no to pumping unfiltered contaminated mine water into the Schuylkill River. Exelon should pay to filter contaminated mine water before pumping it into a drinking water source.

4. DRBC should deny Exelon's requests to reduce low flow restrictions and monitoring requirements. Low flows concentrate toxics discharged into the river.

5. NRC should say no to relicensing Limerick Nuclear Plant for 20 more years, based on Limerick's unacceptable threats to drinking water for almost two million people.

Each year Limerick operates there is far less water in the Schuylkill River, far more hazardous discharges, and more risk for radioactive leaks into groundwater from the miles of buried pipeline under Limerick.

Only public outcry to require Exelon to filter all discharges and close Limerick in 2029 can save your water. Even though approvals of Exelon's requests would lead to a drinking water crisis, history suggests DEF, DRBC, and NRC will all protect Exelon's profits, not our drinking water.

Get informed and get involved now before it's too late.

DR. LEWIS CUTBERT
ACE President

It is crucial to look at the Limerick nuclear

plant's collective threats to drinking water, face reality, and take immediate action to minimize damage. Soon decisions will be made by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Delaware River Basin Commission and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that will have major impacts on the Schuylkill River, a vital drinking water source for almost 2 million people from Pottstown to Philadelphia. Their decisions are interrelated. Together these decisions could result in irreparable harm to the river, its ecosystems and drinking water.

Exelon's requests are a recipe for a drinking water disaster. If Exelon's requests are approved, eventually almost 2 million people may no longer have safe, usable drinking water. Affected water systems include Pottstown, Phoenixville, Aqua PA, American Water and Philadelphia (only 20.7 miles away).

Exelon requested to minimize and even eliminate important safeguards for the Schuylkill River, while requesting significant increases in pollution discharges from the nuclear plant, plus more unfiltered contaminated mine water pumping into the river to operate Limerick.

Limerick Nuclear Plant's extraordinary water use and toxic discharges are unsustainable. Limerick's cooling towers depleted the Schuylkill River by billions of gallons each year since Limerick started operating in 1985. By 1999, the Schuylkill River reached record low flows.

Low flows concentrate toxics, including the broad range of radionuclides discharged from Limerick Nuclear Plant 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Limerick testing confirms radiation in surface water, fish, sediment, vegetation, air particulates, and milk.

Exelon's two planned uprates will use and pollute the river more. Exelon's plan for relicensing would result in using and polluting the river 20 years after its license expires in 2029. Every year Limerick operates, the river becomes more polluted and depleted. Will there be enough safe usable drinking water in the Schuylkill River by 2029, much less by 2049?

Radiation could also be in drinking water wells near Limerick Nuclear Plant. Limerick had radioactive leaks and spills into groundwater over the years. Limerick's 2009 Radiological Monitoring report shows radiation in 15 of 15 monitoring wells. And it isn't just tritium.

Exelon's claims about being good for the environment not only defy common sense and logic, they are disputed by the facts. In fact, Exelon is using a 1984 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) based on estimates from before Limerick

THE MERCURY
OPINION



THE MERCURY

OPINION

Awarded the Pulitzer Prize for spot news photography in 1979 and editorial writing in 1990

READERS' VIEWS

A8 / Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Exelon should pay for filtration of water pumped into the Schuylkill

For almost four years, the Alliance For A Clean Environment (ACE) investigated what we now believe are unprecedented threats to the Schuylkill River, as a result of Exelon operating Limerick Nuclear Power Plant. We feel compelled to respond to Kurt Zwick's Nov. 7 letter praising Exelon.

Zwick, director of the Schuylkill River Heritage Area, is turning a blind eye to Exelon's Limerick Nuclear Power Plant's obvious and serious long-term threats and harms to the Schuylkill River, as well as the diversionary funding tactic which is effectively buying Exelon silence and support.

Exelon is harming the river while getting praised for restoring it. It's shocking that Zwick claims Exelon is making a commitment to better water quality in the Schuylkill River when the opposite is true. Rather than pay to transport Delaware River water, Exelon is polluting the Schuylkill River with unfiltered, contaminated mine water. Money saved by Exelon is used to fund the Schuylkill River Restoration Fund. This fund could be detrimental to the sustainability and health of the river. The Schuylkill is being damaged and sacrificed for Exelon's profits, but funding recipients and hopefuls don't seem to mind.

Funded restoration projects pale by comparison to serious Schuylkill River threats as a result of Exelon operating Limerick Nuclear Power Plant. The extent of damage is unknown after decades of Limerick operations. There's no comprehensive, independent river monitoring, testing, or reporting. Exelon, with a vested interest in the outcome, pays for and controls all river monitoring, testing, and reporting.

Harms to the Schuylkill River from Exelon operating Limerick Nuclear Plant include:

1. Water Depletion
2. Water Contamination
3. Threats to public health, ecosystems, fish and wildlife
4. Increased public costs for damage to public water systems from pumping massive amounts of contaminated mine waters into the river to operate Limerick.

Limerick's extraordinary water needs are clearly unsustainable, a fact recognized by many, even before this nuke plant was built. Even with supplementation, there was a possible 12 billion gallon yearly shortfall for decades, between water withdrawn from the Schuylkill River and returned.

- 20½ billion gallons yearly withdrawal
- 5 billion gallons yearly return — radiated and heated

• 3 billion gallons (or less) supplemented, including — unfiltered Wadesville Mine Water
Reduced river flow plus continued radioactive contamination plus increased mine water

contamination plus reduced safeguards equals disaster. Exelon is currently requesting approval from DRBC to:

- Reduce low-flow restrictions
- Eliminate temperature restrictions
- Add more contaminated unfiltered mine water from other mines
- Reduce monitoring requirements

- Eliminate future public participation

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Exelon should be required to pay to filter all contaminated mine water pumped into the Schuylkill River to operate Limerick Nuclear Plant. Filtration should be a cost of operating Limerick, paid from Exelon's record profits.

The Schuylkill River is a vital public drinking water source for almost two million people from Pottstown to Philadelphia. We urge those blinded by funding to face reality and work to make Exelon pay for filtration of all mine water pumped into the Schuylkill River to operate Limerick Nuclear Plant. For a summary presentation of Limerick Nuclear Plant threats to the Schuylkill River call ACE at 610-326-2387.



ANOTHER VIEW

Limerick nuclear plant a threat to drinking water

It appears Exelon's bottom line is taking precedence over Schuylkill River water quality and ecosystems. Unfortunately, agencies and water groups continue to ignore the 800 pound gorilla that threatens Schuylkill River quality and quantity, people relying on the river for drinking water from Pottstown to Philadelphia.

Limerick Nuclear Plant is a major threat to the Schuylkill River, withdrawing over 20 billion gallons per year, returning only five billion gallons. Wastewater returned is radiated and heated. After decades, the Schuylkill River flow has been significantly reduced, concentrating Limerick's radioactive discharges and other pollution. Since 2003, Exelon pumped over six billion gallons of unfiltered contaminated mine water into the Schuylkill River to supplement the flow for Limerick Nuclear Power Plant operations.

DRBC will soon hold a public hearing, followed by a decision with potential long-term devastating consequences to the Schuylkill River, related to Exelon's request to minimize and even eliminate safeguards while adding more contaminated unfilled mine waters to the river. Agencies continue to deny obvious harms based on data from the company with a vested interest in the outcome. This recipe for disaster is being ignored by those who claim they want to protect the Schuylkill River. For three years ACE collected documentation from permits, dockets, and other official sources that identify significant cause for concern related to Limerick Nuclear Power Plant operations and impacts on the Schuylkill River. We met with and presented summary packets to agency and elected officials, the public, and several water groups.

Chari Towne, heading the Schuylkill River branch of the Delaware Riverkeeper was informed of these concerns before last year's event. So why in this critical decision year would the plan the Watershed Congress in Pottstown ignoring Limerick Nuclear Power Plant's threats to the Schuylkill River?

Guest Columnist

In 30 sessions there's not one that addresses these serious threats or the need for Exelon to filter mine waters massively pumped into the Schuylkill River. Keynote speakers from the Natural Lands Trust and Texas are focusing on threats that we believe pale by comparison to the additive, cumulative, and synergistic radioactive and toxic metals threats to the Schuylkill River from Limerick Nuclear Power Plant's operations. Why would area residents concerned about Limerick's serious threats pay \$50 to this well-funded group to attend a conference that fails to address them?

Exelon's contributions and influence could be a major factor in the failure to acknowledge reality and take meaningful action against Limerick Nuclear Plant's overuse and poisoning of the Schuylkill River.

• NRC, DEP, and DRBC (agencies that should protect the river) are all unwilling or unable to provide full and accurate disclosure of obvious harms. Absent independent, comprehensive monitoring, testing, and reporting, no agency can accurately project future harms.

• On January 24, The Mercury reported that DEP is assessing nuclear waste levels in the Schuylkill River. Inexplicably, DEP appears to be ignoring Limerick Nuclear Power Plant, clearly the major source.

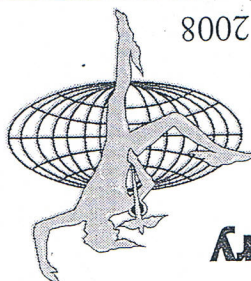
• In November 2008 Clean Water Action spoke out in the Mercury about planting trees along the river to prevent pollution but has yet to speak out to prevent massive radioactive and heavy metal contamination of a vital water source.

• The Schuylkill Watershed Congress comes to Limerick Nuclear Power Plant claiming to be making an effort to learn more about this watershed and what can be done to protect it, but long term massive radioactive and heavy metal poisoning of the Schuylkill River by Limerick Nuclear Power Plant is ignored.

History suggests Exelon will get what it wants, regardless of the outcomes, if the public does not get involved now. Are you willing to dedicate the Schuylkill River to Limerick Nuclear Power Plant operations?

DONNA CUTHERBERT
ACE Vice President

The Mercury



Tuesday, November 4, 2008

READERS' VIEWS

Exelon's nuclear plant is not 'easy on the environment'

I hope Exelon doesn't think we're all naive. Some of us pay attention to reality. Exelon's ad in the Oct. 8 issue of The Mercury was beyond misleading, claiming "Limerick Generating Station ... Look how low the flows in the Schuylkill River and its tributaries are since Limerick started withdrawing water in the mid 1980s. Limerick withdraws over 20 billion gallons from the Schuylkill River every year and returns only one quarter of that amount. Thirty-five million gallons are emitted as steam carrying toxics into the air from the river and toxics Exelon adds to the cooling water.

Limerick Nuclear Power Plant contaminates the Schuylkill River in two ways: First, discharging over five billion gallons of radiated and heated water each year back into the river. Second, Exelon pumped billions of gallons of contaminated mine water into the headwaters of the Schuylkill river for Limerick since 2003, and plans to increase that threat, currently asking to add more mine water while reducing safeguards.

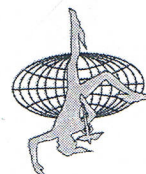
Exelon's donations to the Schuylkill River Festival and/or Heritage Foundation don't justify obvious damage to the river and its ecosystems from Limerick Nuclear Plant operations.

Nuclear power is said to be the fifth largest source of greenhouse gases, yet Exelon's ad claimed they don't produce greenhouse gases, a claim in direct opposition to their own 2006 mail-

LORRAINE RUPPE
Pottstown

Clearly, Limerick Nuclear Plant is anything but easy on the environment. Exelon should be ashamed.

Exelon also turned our region into a de facto high-level radioactive waste dump, with Limerick Nuclear Plant's deadly wastes stored not only in the fuel pools at Limerick, but now also above ground in casks, jeopardizing generations to come in so many ways.



ANOTHER VIEW

Help protect our public drinking water

This is in response to DEP claims related to re-

mental liabilities," but called pumping mine water into the Schuylkill River "an asset." Logically, if drainage into groundwater is harmful, massive dis-

charges into the river are harmful too.

2) Myers predictably stated DEP sees no prob-
lems or violations. Not surprising! DEP allowed
discharge limits so high it's difficult to violate
them. Wadesville Mine water is permitted to be
discharged into the Schuylkill River 80 times high-
er than safe drinking water standards for manga-

nese and 20 times higher than safe drinking water
standards for iron.

3) Myers said, "DEP sees nothing to suggest the
need for parallel analysis." Without independent
testing, data and reports are suspect. There's no in-
dependent comprehensive analysis of harms. All
data and reports are from a company hired and
paid by those with a vested interest in the outcome,
with little, if any, DEP or DRBC oversight.

Manganese was found in Wadesville Mine water
67 times higher than safe drinking water limits and
12 times higher for iron. Pottstown is the first pub-
lic water intake after mine water discharge into the
Schuylkill River. Pottstown's 2008 water testing
shows manganese and iron levels rising. Breathing
vaporized manganese from showering, at levels
previously considered safe, can cause permanent
brain injury and nervous system damage after 10
years. (2005 research) Iron overload disease can
damage the liver, heart, and pancreas.

Clearly, we can't be sure how much damage has
already been done. Far more will be done if Ex-
celon's requests are granted. It's ludicrous for Ex-
celon, DEP or DRBC to claim this is good for the
Schuylkill River.

The public's interests will be abandoned unless
the whole truth is told now. Comprehensive, inde-
pendent data and reports, and a public hearing are
needed, prior to any decision on Exelon requests.
Contact ACE for more information or add your
name to a list of people who want to help protect
public water, 610-326-6433.

ACE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Agencies making permitting
ing this river for profit.
bility to stop Exelon from pollut-

Elected officials have a responsi-
a "Designated Scenic River."
River is a "National and State Heritage Area" and

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to Schuylkill River water quality, supply, wildlife,
River? Do you use the river for recreation? Threats

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ACE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

groundwater one of Pennsylvania's "great environ-

speaks volumes. She called mine drainage into

1) Myers' illogical 2006 Mercury statement

public water?

How can the public rely on PA DEP to protect

additional mine waters.

that DEP has been encouraging Exelon to look for

already made up its mind. Exelon publicly stated

will carefully review Exelon requests. Hardly! DEP

retary's, June 16 Mercury letter assured us DEP

Cathy Myers, PA DEP Water Management Sec-

future public participation.

mine water discharges permanent and to add more

mines, to reduce low-flow restrictions, eliminate

heat restrictions, reduce monitoring, and eliminate

by the end of 2008 on Exelon's requests to make

Decisions will be made by PA DEP and DRBC

of harms can hardly be considered objective.

attempt to deny obvious threats. Their assessment

shameful public relations campaign with Exelon to

Schuylkill River. DEP and DRBC have joined in a

of unfiltered contaminated mine water into the

onstration Project" to discharge billions of gallons

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ACE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



READERS' VIEWS

People need to be aware of contamination in the Schuylkill

Gone are the days of rope swinging into the river. My personal experience suggests the Schuylkill River has long been polluted. I became very ill for a long period of time in the early 1990s after swimming in the Schuylkill River. I never went near it again. Most of the other people who swam in the river that summer became chronically ill and died before the age of 50. The Montgomery County Health Department knew there was too much bacteria in the water but never said any-

thing. People must be warned. Signs should be posted saying, "Contaminated water, no fishing, no swimming." The truth should be told to families whose drinking water comes from the Schuylkill River. Water treatment plants aren't filtering out all the contamination. I sure wouldn't want Schuylkill River water in baby's formula and wouldn't think of washing kids in it or letting pets drink unfiltered tap water.

Instead of trying to clean up the Schuylkill River or keep it from getting worse, our government officials continue to ignore reality and common sense. Very dangerous poisons are dumped into the Schuylkill River from major industrial facilities and sewage treatment plants. Water treatment plants only test periodically, don't test for all of them, and certainly don't remove all of them. Radiation from the power plant can mutate organisms, bacteria and viruses. Agencies deceptively claim levels for some pollutants are safe, ignore others and dismiss harmful impacts from all of them together and blame each other. I find it difficult to believe that government agencies actually allowed Schuylkill River contamination to get worse through Exelon poisoning the river with heavy metals in contaminated mine water. Even more shocking is the plan to allow this

to continue, with more mines, just to supplement the flow of the river for Limerick Nuclear Power Plant. Exelon must be required to filter the contaminated mine water before dumping it into the Schuylkill River. They have plenty of money to do it. Why was Exelon allowed to run the river dry in the first place to operate Limerick Nuclear Power Plant? Is there a real threat of a meltdown if we have a drought this summer? And will we be warned ahead of time?

The Schuylkill River is destroyed, possibly beyond restoration, with the blessing of our government agencies. What is wrong with our elected officials? Why aren't they speaking up to stop this intentional contamination? Why aren't they demanding independent testing for all kinds of pollution to determine the extent of damage already done for themselves to see? Why aren't they warning the public? Why aren't they demanding updating the public? Why aren't they demanding updated and improved filtration methods at water treatment plants along the Schuylkill River?

Wake up everyone and smell the river. Look at the amount of pollution and radiation that's dumped into the river. Ignore deceptive claims that it's safe. Protect your family. Don't let them get deadly sick like me and others. Keep them out of the Schuylkill River and other contaminated waterways. And if your water comes from the Schuylkill River, at least use water filters for drinking, cooking and bathing. I'd like to see Gov. Rendell and the Exelon officials with their families taking a dip in the river below the power plant for a public photo shoot. Then we can all believe what they say.

Any takers?

ROBIN GANE
Gilbertsville