

# newsplash!

Summer 2009 Edition

by:  **Suburban Water Testing Labs**  
A Newsletter for our Wastewater and Drinking Water Clients

## DEP Sets New Standards for Wastewater Discharges with High TDS

In April of this year Secretary John Hanger of the PADEP announced new discharge limits for industrial wastewaters high in Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) that will take effect by January 2011. New regulatory standards will be considered by the Environmental Quality Board on Aug. 18 and will be available for public comment.

"High total dissolved solids in industrial wastewater have been a problem in the Monongahela River recently and are an impending problem on a statewide level," Hanger said.

According to a press release from The Department, certain industrial wastewater customers, such as Marcellus Shale Drilling Companies have wastewater high in chlorides and sulfates which can damage or destroy aquatic life. More and more wastewater facilities are accepting industrial waters, such as Marcellus Shale Drilling fracturing water. The Susquehanna River Basin Commission estimates that the natural gas industry alone will demand 20 MGD for brine water treatment per year.

The Department also stated "the new permitted limit for discharges of high-TDS wastewater will be 500 mg/L of TDS and 250 mg/L for both chlorides and sulfates." Bromides were also identified as a key parameter of concern.

Testing for TDS, chlorides, sulfates and bromides with Suburban Water Testing Labs is easy and inexpensive. All four tests may be submitted in a 500 mL unpreserved container. The holding time for TDS is 7 days, and 28 days for chlorides, sulfates and bromides. Turnaround times range from 3-5 business days. Contact a Client Services Representative for pricing.

In addition, you can view the Permitting Strategy at [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us), keyword Wastewater, and select "Marcellus Shale Wastewater Partnership."



### Total Dissolved Solids is...

...the combined content of all inorganic and organic substances contained in a liquid.

The most common chemical components are sodium, chloride, sulfate, calcium, phosphates, nitrates and potassium.



### Meet your <sup>Leadership!</sup> team... **Rebecca Zettlemoyer and Crystal Repko**

The Leadership Team at Suburban Water Testing Labs is pleased to announce two new promotions: Rebecca Zettlemoyer is moving into a Laboratory Manager role, and Crystal Repko is moving into the role of Quality Assurance Manager.

Rebecca will be leveraging her 8 years of experience to deliver ever improving service to our Clients. Crystal will be building on her 8 years of experience in the environmental testing industry to help shape and enforce our ever changing Quality System to ensure we deliver accurate and reliable data.

***Congratulations to both of You!***

 **Suburban Water Testing Labs**

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