

Mike Johnson, P.E.  
West Virginia Dept. Of Environmental Protection  
Division of Water and Waste Management  
Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program  
601 57<sup>th</sup> Street  
Charleston, WV. 25304

**RE: FONSI-WV-234 and EA for SRF No. C-544415**

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Although the Youghiogheny Chapter of Trout Unlimited is located in Maryland, we have several members who are West Virginia residents and many members fish the upper Elk River. As a matter of fact, our chapter makes annual fishing trips to that area. We therefore have great concerns about the referenced actions.

We not only believe that the hydrology and wild fish population, which are dependant on the resulting flow structure, would be threatened for all the reasons listed in the study by Downstream Strategies, LLC, which we will not repeat here, but that there is the very real possibility that these reproducing trout populations may be harmed by hormones released in the discharge which may cause reproductive problems similar to those occurring in Smallmouth Bass in the South Branch of the Potomac.

We believe that the issuance of the FONSI for this project by WVDEP was done without adequate regard for proper environmental studies and would request that it be withdrawn and that a full Environmental Impact Statement for all potential sites be conducted.

Respectively submitted,

Harold Harsh  
P.O. Box 379  
Oakland, MD. 21550

