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July 31, 2015

John Quigley, Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Secretary Quigley:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me and other members of LGAC's Pennsylvania delegation. We appreciated the opportunity to discuss LGAC's recommendations to the Executive Council with you, Deputy Secretary Heffner and Director Clark.

It is clear that you are committed to protecting Pennsylvania's water resources and meeting Pennsylvania's pollution reduction obligations associated with the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. We look forward to reviewing and providing feedback on your Clean Water for Pennsylvania Communities plan. As discussed, we would be happy to serve as early reviewers. We also look forward to learning more about the new role for Local Government Liaisons associated with the reorganization you mentioned, and the technical assistance mentioned by Deputy Secretary Heffner.

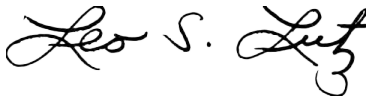
We concur with your assessment that to be successful, other state agencies, including the Departments of Agriculture, Transportation, and Conservation and Natural Resources must be better engaged. We also recognize the need to better engage our peers and hope to work more closely with your staff to identify ways to better utilize our respective municipal associations to enhance communication. We believe that a local government award for watershed stewardship may help with raising awareness as well as provide us with an array of success stories/contacts that could be used for other purposes, including implementation of the Local Leadership Management Strategy. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss incorporating such an award into the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence.

Finally, we appreciate your offer to coordinate a meeting with Paul Marchetti to discuss opportunities to better utilize Pennvest for financing stormwater infrastructure. We should have recommendations to you for review by the end of August.

I'm enclosing LGAC's 2014 Report and Recommendations to the Executive Council, which addresses the impacts of staff cuts on local implementation as well as other items that we believe are still worthy of consideration.

Again, thank you for your time. Please feel free to reach out to us individually or through LGAC's Coordinator, Mary Gattis, if we may be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Leo S. Lutz, Mayor
Columbia Borough

Enclosure: LGAC 2014 Report and Recommendations to the Chesapeake Executive Council

