



PA TROUT POLICY ON SOIL ADDITIVES AND AMENDMENTS

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PA Trout recognizes the extent of the Acidic Mine Drainage (AMD) problem in Pennsylvania and that AMD represents more than 60% of the non-point source pollution identified on assessed streams in the state. PA Trout, likewise, recognizes the enormity of the projected cost (15 billion dollars) to address AMD pollution sources in Pennsylvania. In principal, PA Trout encourages innovative technologies and practices aimed at eliminating AMD pollution sources and other threats to Commonwealth water quality while reducing costs. These technologies and practices may have utility apart from abating water pollution sources. PA Trout is aware of existing as well as proposed uses of various soil additives and/or amendments to address AMD discharges while reclaiming mine-disturbed lands. These include but are not limited to coal combustion wastes, biosolids from sewage or industrial processes and harbor dredgings.

In view of the acknowledged contaminant content of these materials including heavy metals, toxic organic substances and possibly radioactive materials, PA Trout must adopt a cautious approach to their use as soil additives and/or amendments in treating polluted water discharges into Pennsylvania streams. To support any pollution abatement project where these materials are employed, PA Trout insists that the following minimum requirements be met:

1. There must be full public knowledge and/or participation in the project.
2. The need and efficacy of soil additives or amendments including any or all materials must be clearly demonstrated to the exclusion of alternatives.
3. When used, any or all proposed soil additives and/or amendments must be tested prior to installation for all contaminants known to be present in these materials and must meet safety standards promulgated by EPA and/or DEP.
4. A continuous comprehensive surface and groundwater monitoring system must be part of the project to assure project goals are met and no water quality threats are posed by the additives and/or amendments.
5. Project contractors and/or operators must retain full liability for project performance.