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# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURESTATE

# SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION, 2009

### ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

# Senate Bill No. 461

(Senators Caruth, Chafin, Tomblin, (Mr. President), Browning, Edgell, Green, Helmick, Plymale, Stollings, Jenkins, Laird, Minard, Yost, Barnes, Hall, Deem, Oliverio, Williams and Fanning, original sponsors)

[Passed April 11, 2009; in effect ninety days from passage.]

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OFFICE WELT VINGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

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## Senate Bill No. 461

(SENATORS CARUTH, CHAFIN, TOMBLIN (MR. PRESIDENT), BROWNING, EDGELL, GREEN, HELMICK, PLYMALE, STOLLINGS, JENKINS, LAIRD, MINARD, YOST, BARNES, HALL, DEEM, OLIVERIO, WILLIAMS AND FANNING, original sponsors)

[Passed April 11, 2009; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §22-11-6 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to extending the time for compliance with selenium effluent limits; requiring a certain comprehensive study; and filing a report with Joint Committee on Government and Finance.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §22-11-6 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 11. WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT.

§22-11-6. Requirement to comply with standards of water quality and effluent limitations.

All persons affected by rules establishing water quality 1 2 standards and effluent limitations shall promptly comply 3 therewith: *Provided*, That where necessary and proper, the 4 chief may specify a reasonable time for persons not 5 complying with such standards and limitations to comply 6 therewith, and upon the expiration of any such period of 7 time, the chief shall revoke or modify any permit previ-8 ously issued which authorized the discharge of treated or 9 untreated sewage, industrial wastes or other wastes into 10 the waters of this state which result in reduction of the 11 quality of such waters below the standards and limitations 12 established therefor by rules of the board or director. The 13 Legislature finds that there are concerns within West 14 Virginia regarding the applicability of the research 15 underlying the federal selenium criteria to a state such as 16 West Virginia which has high precipitation rates and free-17 flowing streams and that the alleged environmental 18 impacts that were documented in applicable federal 19 research have not been observed in West Virginia and, 20 further, that considerable research is required to deter-21 mine if selenium is having an impact on West Virginia 22 streams, to validate or determine the proper testing 23 methods for selenium and to better understand the chemi-24 cal reactions related to selenium mobilization in water. 25 For existing NPDES permits, the department may extend 26 the time period for achieving water quality-based effluent 27 limits for selenium discharges into waters supporting 28 aquatic life uses to July 1, 2012, upon compliance with all 29 federally required public notice requirments for such 30 modifications, upon a finding that the permittee cannot 31 comply with its existing compliance schedule and that an 32 extension is not in violation of any state or federal laws, 33 rules or regulations. The West Virginia Department of 34 Environmental Protection is hereby directed to undertake 35 a comprehensive study relating to selenium and prepare a 36 report detailing such findings and submitting the report to 37 the Joint Committee on Government and Finance no later

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- 38 than January 1, 2010. In conducting such study, the West
- 39 Virginia Department of Environmental Protection shall
- 40 consult with, among others, West Virginia University and
- 41 the West Virginia Water Research Institute.

## Enr. Com. Sub. for S. B. No. 461] 4

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that
the foragoing bill is correctly enrolled.
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Vanne Wells
Chairman House Committee
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