



West Virginia Environmental Council's

GREEN Legislative Update

Published Weekly During West Virginia's Legislative Session

Volume: **21** Number: **8**

Date: **March 4, 2011**

Please Note: This will be the last issue of *Legislative Update* until after the conclusion of the session. We will continue to send out notices and Action Alerts as necessary. Our 2011 *Legislative Wrap Up* newsletter will go out post session, most likely the first week in April.

Under the Dome

By Donald S. Garvin, Jr.
WVEC Legislative Coordinator

Week 8 – Up in the Air

With about a week remaining in the 2011 West Virginia Legislative Session, almost *everything* dealing with water is still up in the air.

Wednesday, March 2, was “crossover day”, the day that bills must pass out of the “house of origin” in order to be considered by the other chamber. Most of the bills we have been working on, or have an interest in, haven’t even made it out of committee!

In fact, most of the good bills we have been working on died on Wednesday.

Most notably, even the gutted versions of the “Alternative Coal Slurry Disposal Act” died in House and Senate Finance Committees. The bill would have prohibited new permits for the underground injection of coal slurry and phased out existing coal slurry injection operations. The bill also would have provided a tax credit to industry to assist in the transition to new technology to reduce and/or eliminate coal slurry.

So what’s still alive?

Regulation of Marcellus Shale drilling in the state is still alive, but on life support. The Senate on Wednesday passed and sent to the House SB 424, a greatly pared down version of the bill proposed by the Department of Environmental Protection. That will keep the issue alive until the end of the session on March 12.

While both the House and Senate bills contain the basic water reporting provisions from last year’s failed Marcellus legislation, they stop way short of providing real protections for human health and the environment necessary due to the huge scope of the industrial activity resulting from Marcellus Shale drilling.

The final outcome of this legislation will likely be decided on the last night of the session.

As for the Water Quality Standards Rule (47CSR2), the Senate Natural Resources Committee gutted the Water Quality Standards Rule proposed by the DEP three weeks ago. Amendments were approved by the committee to remove “excessive water withdrawals” from the rule’s list of activities not allowed in state waters, to remove a new standard for phosphorous to prevent algae blooms in the Greenbrier River, and to remove a new standard for “total dissolved solids” which would have provided cleaner drinking water for most West Virginians.

We thought it couldn’t get worse, but just last week the Senate Judiciary Committee declined to restore the proposed standards. And the committee even added an amendment that would weaken the method for determining water quality standards for carcinogens for a section of the Ohio River!

The rule has now been “bundled” with all the rest of the DEP rules and sent to the House, where restoring DEP’s proposed revisions will be opposed by the same industry lobbyists who succeeded in gutting it in the Senate.

So the fate of water quality in West Virginia is now in the hands of the House Judiciary Committee. We are told the committee will take up the rules bundle next Tuesday.

I want to end this column on a personal note. Many of you know that because of a serious medical problem I have not actually been “Under the Dome” for most of this session.

Just losing that one extra “set of legs” at the Capitol has made it a lot tougher on the rest of the WVEC lobby team. But, of course, they have come through with colors flying.

So to Denise, John and Leslee I say, “Thank you,” for the extraordinary work you have performed this session. The West Virginia Environmental Council owes you its gratitude as well.

Now it’s beginning to look like Spring is coming, but our fine-feathered friends need you to keep those bird feeders full.

Marcellus, Politics and Pop-tarts!

By Leslee McCarty, WVEC Lobbyist

It all started this afternoon with Delegate Clif Moore’s Pop-tarts. Let me be clear. Clif Moore does not eat pop tarts. So when he tried to get chips from the vending machine and got pop-tarts instead - twice - I said, “Delegate, why not go to the snack bar?” Not everyone knows about the great little snack bar in the West wing, so I said, “Come on, I’ll show you. “

So we get to the snack bar and there is Marilyn McGeorge, who has been helping us on Marcellus drilling regulation issues. Marilyn loaned me \$4.00 so I could get a sandwich (I forgot my cash today) and we started going over what was going on with SB 424, now in the House. I said, “OK, Marilyn, I think it’s time we go ask the Speaker what is going on (with the Marcellus bill). Can you speak for the League of Women Voters?” She said, “Sure,” so off we went.

On the way, we saw Julie Archer of SORO, and Julie told us the Marcellus bill was going to be taken off the Calendar and put on the Special Calendar, which was good news. But we still thought, well heck - the oil and gas boys are probably over there all the time, so we need to get in there to see the Speaker. We wanted to get an appointment so all of our coalition could come later in the afternoon.

So we get to the Speaker’s office and Janet, his secretary, fully expected me to say, “May we have some tea?” but we surprised her and said, “We’d like to get an appointment with the Speaker.” Her jaw dropped. She thought we were joking. It is not easy to get in to see the Speaker. “No,” we said, “We really want to see him.” We gave her the short list of organizations we wanted to bring to the meeting later. “OK,” she said, “I’ll see what he says.”

Long story short, out pops the Speaker to say he doesn’t really have time to meet with us - and we say, “It’s ok, Mr. Speaker, we just want to be reassured that we will get Marcellus

regulations this session.” So, he tells us the bill is going to be back on the Special Calendar and they intend to work the bill, maybe in Committee, but he wants to get it moving. “Thank you, Mr. Speaker,” we said. And I told him I had to write something to get the word out to a lot of people (you) today. So there you have it. The Speaker, Mr. Thompson, intends to work the bill.

Of course, there is a long way to go before we get a bill passed, but I, for one, am encouraged. Check with me Monday afternoon to see if I still feel the same. **Please keep up the pressure on your delegates and senators to let them know we want a good bill this session to regulate this industry.** And listen to meetings of the House Judiciary Committee - look for their agendas and listen live. In addition to hearing incredibly interesting discussions about its being a God-given right for people to have 50 dogs running loose on their property, you might hear a Marcellus bill discussed. Listen to the floor sessions, too. And call, write or visit the Capitol!!!

Stop PATH! – Halted?

By Denise Poole, WVEC

This week we received the news that the Potomac Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH) had been stopped, due to PJM Interconnection and its partners, American Electric Power and FirstEnergy Corporation “suspending” their plans to construct the 275-mile transmission line.

Although this news is cause for celebration, affected property owners and concerned environmentalists who have been fighting the PATH project are pointing out that the move to withdraw the application includes the words “without prejudice”. This means they could come back and re-file at a later date.

The Weston Democrat reported Wednesday that the withdrawal of their application for the planned construction were filed Monday with the PSC in all three states (West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland).

AEP and FirstEnergy Corp. cited a directive by regional grid operator PJM Interconnection to suspend further development of the PATH project.

Why? PJM officials point to the recession, the dramatic change in the economic outlook, and lower growth in the use of electricity!

Resolution 58 is now before the legislature, urging the PSC to “halt all consideration of the PATH application currently before it, and move rapidly to approve the reconstruction and rebuilding of Monongahela Power’s Pruntytown to Mt. Storm 500kV transmission line, completing the majority of the Dominion alternative to PATH which is in the best interests of West Virginia electrical customers and citizens.”

Stay tuned folks! Lets hope this unwanted, unneeded transmission line has truly been halted, and thousands of acres spared. Not to mention the estimated \$2.1 million in construction costs that would most certainly have been pushed onto the shoulders of the rate-payers – us!

HB 2709 Goes to Governor

By John Christensen, WVEC Lobbyist

The WVEC lobby team was happy to see HB 2709 get through the maze of legislative committees to finally make it to the Acting Governor’s desk for final approval. The purpose of this bill is to allow county school boards to enter into “energy-saving contracts” and allow these contracts to extend for up to fifteen years.

Sponsored by Delegates Canterbury (R-Greenbrier), Hamilton (R-Upshur), Perry (D-Fayette), Shaver (D-Preston), Walker (D-Clay) and Hartman (D-Randolph), the bill encourages

school boards to be more energy efficient by reducing energy consumption operating costs of school facilities.

“Energy-savings contract” means a contract for the evaluation and recommendation of energy conservation measures and for implementation of one or more such measures (from a lengthy list contained in the bill). The bill enables school boards to immediately reduce their energy costs, while the contractors are paid over time from those cost savings.

The bi-partisan sponsorship and passage of this bill shows that energy conservation does not have to be a single party issue.

The legislature has previously enacted similar measures for state government and the higher education system. We encourage Acting Governor Tomblin to sign this bill and make it the “law of the land” for county school boards.

This Just In - A Lot of People are Running for Governor ... And It's Incredibly Important!

By Leslee McCarty, WVEC Lobbyist

For the last few weeks, I have been very focused on getting Marcellus Drilling regulated, and I still am. But, I think we all will need to quickly shift gears when the session is over and focus on the Governor's race. It's life or death this year - and life means a candidate who has the will to keep us safe from the invading horde of gas drillers.

This is going to be especially tough when the U.S. Supreme Court has said that those big corporations who stand to make billions off our gas are allowed to spend tons of cash to get someone in who will do their bidding. Some of E Council's constituent groups have sent out questionnaires in the past to candidates, and I think this is very important this year. We will not get everything we need this session to regulate drilling, and we need a governor who can direct the DEP and help us get more regulations!

It is very early to make up one's mind, but I hope that a great candidate emerges whom we can all support to get us on the right track with this “natural gas play”. I hate that term, don't you? It is not *play* in any sense of the word for the people of this state, in my opinion. Just like coal is not, and has not, been *play*.

So plan to meet the candidates for governor, and ask them about how they stand on Marcellus.

Environmental News Briefs . . .

Ammonia Leaks At Dupont Belle Plant

About 20 pounds of ammonia was released early Tuesday morning when a relief valve opened on the top of the huge ammonia tank at DuPont Co.'s Belle plant, according to press reports.

No one was injured in the incident. “We have an investigation underway now to try to get at the cause of the leak,” DuPont spokesman David Hastings said.

Exposure to ammonia can cause burning, swelling of the larynx, severe pulmonary and gastrointestinal irritation, nausea, vomiting, convulsions and, in large enough doses, coma and even death.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/News/201103010425>

Arch Coal To Pay \$4 Million In Water Fines

Arch Coal Inc. has agreed to pay \$4 million in fines to resolve water pollution violations that date back eight years at its coal-mining operations across Central Appalachia, federal officials announced Tuesday.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials and the federal Department of Justice announced the settlement after filing a copy of it -- along with the lawsuit it was proposed to resolve -- in federal court.

The proposed settlement covers water pollution violations at Arch's Mountain Laurel and Coal-Mac operations in Logan County, and the company's Lone Mountain Complex in Kentucky and its Cumberland River operations in Virginia.

Federal regulators alleged more than 800 violations of pollution limits for manganese, total suspended solids, pH, iron, aluminum and selenium, according to records filed in U.S. District Court in Charleston.

(<http://www.wvgazette.com/News/MiningtheMountains/201103011087>)

EPA: Clean Air Act saved 160,000 lives in 2010 alone

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency today issued a report that concluded, in 2010 alone, the reductions in fine particle and ozone pollution from the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments prevented more than:

- 160,000 cases of premature mortality
- 130,000 heart attacks
- 13 million lost work days
- 1.7 million asthma attacks

By 2020, the study projects benefits will be even greater, preventing more than:

- 230,000 cases of premature mortality
- 200,000 heart attacks
- 17 million lost work days
- 2.4 million asthma attacks

According to the study, the direct benefits from the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments are estimated to reach almost \$2 trillion for the year 2020, a figure that dwarfs the direct costs of implementation (\$65 billion).

(<http://blogs.wvgazette.com/watchdog/2011/03/01/epa-clean-air-act-saved-160000-lives-in-2010-alone/>)

Dirty Business – The Movie

A showing of “Dirty Business – ‘Clean Coal’ And The Battle For Our Energy Future” was shown Wednesday evening at the Cultural Center Theater in Charleston.

This movie is a “must see” if you really want to know more about the affect coal has on our lives, land, air, health and the future of our energy.

A panel discussion followed the showing with the filmmaker, OVEC Executive Director Janet Keating, and Rory McIlmoil.

There was a pretty nice crowd in attendance, however we wish there could have been more! Go to this website for more information and to watch for other area showings:

www.dirtybusinessfilm.com (presented by The Center for Investigative Reporting.)

Think Renewable

CSB Study Details Potential MIC Leak Impacts

By Ken Ward Jr.

The Charleston Gazette, February 24, 2011

Thousands of people living within four miles of the Bayer CropScience plant in Institute could have been exposed to potentially harmful levels of methyl isocyanate if the contents of an MIC tank located near an August 2008 explosion had been released, according to a government study obtained by the Gazette.

Residents closest to the plant -- those within a mile of the sprawling facility -- could have been exposed to MIC concentrations that are classified as "immediately dangerous to life or health," according to the study from the U.S. Chemical Safety Board.

The study, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, examined the potential toxic plume if 13,700 pounds of MIC escaped in a leak from the plant.

In the 23-page report, CSB consultants from the firm TAI Engineers concluded that a much smaller leak of 560 pounds of MIC would have created a "toxic endpoint" that was nearly three miles from the Bayer plant.

"I don't want to be living in an area that's one mile or three miles away [from where] 13,000 pounds of MIC became airborne," said Rafael Moure-Eraso, the safety board chairman.

"It would be a terrible thing," said Moure-Eraso, a chemical engineer and environmental health expert. "It would have a big impact on the public health of the community."

CSB investigators commissioned the study as part of their more than two-year probe of the August 2008 explosion and fire that killed two workers in the methomyl-Larvin unit at the Bayer facility.

Board officials and congressional investigators warned in April 2009 that the explosion and fire had occurred dangerously close to a "day tank," where MIC used in the methomyl-Larvin unit was stored.

The "day tank" has since been eliminated, and Bayer has said it plans to phase-out all manufacture, use and storage of MIC at the Institute facility as part of a corporate restructuring. But the company is battling in federal court against residents who want to block Bayer from resuming MIC production for 18 months during the phase-out period.

The case over restarting the MIC unit, which has been down for a reconfiguration project since August 2010, is the latest chapter in a 25-year effort by some Kanawha Valley residents to rid the community of the Institute plant's huge stockpile of MIC. Community activists have focused their concerns on MIC since December 1984, when a leak of the chemical killed thousands of people near a Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India.

On Wednesday, Chief U.S. District Judge Joseph R. Goodwin extended his temporary restraining order on the MIC unit through March 28. The judge named a Texas A&M University chemical engineer as a court-appointed expert to examine the unit, and scheduled a hearing to consider a longer-term injunction for March 21.

Bayer officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the CSB study.

Company officials have previously said that they have added new safety features to their reconfigured MIC unit, that the plant hasn't had an MIC leak since Bayer bought it in 2001, and that the unit got a clean report from an outside consultant for resuming MIC production.

Goodwin commented in an earlier order that he found it "remarkable" that new operating procedures and employee training for the MIC unit had not been completed yet. Moure-Eraso warned the situation could be a "similar pattern" to safety lapses by Bayer that led to the fatal August 2008 incident.

The chemical board's study examined two potential scenarios: one involving the release of all 13,700 pounds of MIC in the day tank the night of incident and another in which the smaller, 560-pound amount was released.

Each scenario was studied to determine how far from the plant two different concentrations of MIC might stretch.

One concentration was the "toxic endpoint," defined as the maximum concentration below which most individuals could be exposed for up to an hour without experiencing irreversible or other serious health effects. The other was the "immediately dangerous to life or health," or IDLH, the concentration that poses an immediate danger to life, would cause irreversible health effects, or would impair an individual's ability to escape danger.

For the larger release, the toxic endpoint would be 3.9 miles from the plant, stretching into St. Albans, Dunbar, South Charleston and Nitro. The IDLH would be 1.2 miles from the plant.

For the smaller release, the toxic endpoint would be 2.8 miles from the plant and the IDLH would be 1.1 miles from the facility.

The study is similar and uses similar computer modeling to the "worst-case scenario" reports that Kanawha Valley companies made public in 1994 in anticipation of a federal requirement that they file such reports with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In their lawsuit over the MIC unit, 16 Kanawha Valley residents cited a "worst-case" report Bayer submitted to EPA, warning that 300,000 people within a 25-mile radius could have been affected by the plant's former inventory of more than 200,000 pounds of the chemical.

Bayer lawyers respond that such an incident is "both a physical and practical impossibility" because the worst-case report assumes "that none of the multiple layers of protection that [Bayer] employs to prevent precisely such an event were in place, or would function."

The scenarios in the CSB report were specifically aimed at providing some rough glimpse of how far impacts might have been felt if the MIC "day tank" had released some of its 13,700-pound contents the night of the explosion and fire.

In its final report last month, the board said that the steel "blast shield" around the day tank likely would have protected the tank itself, but that piping attached to the tank could have been damaged by debris.

John Vorderbrueggen, the board's investigations supervisor, cautioned that the study design could overstate the extent of the releases.

For example, both scenarios involved MIC piping being essentially cut in half, rather than punctured by a smaller hole. Also, the study assumed that most plant safety equipment that could control the size of a release is not working at the time of the incident.

But, the study also does not consider whether weather conditions could have blow the plume in the direction of a residential neighborhood and then kept it hugging against the valley floor and hillside, increasing exposure time. The report also does not attempt to quantify the risks of such leaks occurring or analyze in any way what the actual health impacts on residents might be if they occurred.

TAI Engineers' report to the CSB is dated April 20, 2009, or one day before a high-profile congressional hearing that examined the Institute explosion and Bayer's efforts to use homeland security rules to avoid embarrassing disclosures about the facility. Two days after the congressional hearing, on April 23, 2009, the board held its own public hearing in Institute to release preliminary findings of its investigation.

Board officials did not reveal the leak modeling report's findings at either hearing, and Vorderbrueggen told residents at the Institute hearing, "We do intend to run some air modeling to predict what kind of chemical release might occur in the impact zone."

In an interview Thursday, Vorderbrueggen said he did not remember exactly when the board received the report from TAI Engineers.

"Just because the report has that hard fast date doesn't mean it was in our office that day," Vorderbrueggen said. "What transpired exactly over the three, four, five, six days related to this April 20 date on the coverage page of this report, I'm not even sure it could be reproduced."

Board officials had originally said they would include the modeling results in their final report, but Vorderbrueggen said investigators decided not to do so when Bayer announced in August 2009 that it was eliminating the MIC day tank.

WVEC Needs You!

If you would like to help WVEC raise much-needed funds, help with outreach & education initiatives, or find items for the office this spring and summer - here are a few ideas and items on our wish list:

- ☉ Sponsor a Benefit in your area. We can connect you with your regional representative on the board of directors, and offer materials and possibly a speaker.
- ☉ Host a Benefit Dinner in your region.
- ☉ Organize a nice musical benefit in your region.
- ☉ Set up a table during a local event with WVEC materials. We can supply you with brochures and other materials.
- ☉ Donate or find items we need in our office: couch, chair, side tables, power surge protector extension cords, and office supplies.

Bills That Are Still Alive

Bill Number	Title	Committee
Senate Bills		
SB 227	Creative Communities Development Pilot Program	House Finance
SB 245	Funding for Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration (<i>Interim Bill</i>)	House Finance
SB 366	Underground Storage Tank Administrative Fund	House Judiciary
SB 410	Extending the alternative-fuel motor vehicle tax credit	House Transportation
SB 424	Regulating oil and gas wells (<i>DEP Bill</i>)	House, 2 nd Reading
SB 458	Updating Logging Sediment Control Act	Completed Legislation
SB 460	Law Enforcement Practices for Division of Forestry	House Judiciary
SB 465	Marcellus Gas and Manufacturing Development Act	House, 2 nd Reading
SB 510	Adopting 2009 Energy Code for building projects using state funds	House Gov Org
House Bills		
HB 2709	Allowing county school boards to enter into energy-saving contracts	Completed Legislation
HB 2871	Relating to brownfield economic development districts	Senate, 2nd Reading
HB 2878	Hydraulic Fracturing and Horizontal Drilling Gas Act (<i>Interim Bill</i>)	(See SB 424)
HB 2890	Energy Efficient Building Act	Senate Finance
HB 2953	Dedication of coalbed methane severance tax proceeds	Senate Finance
HB 2955	Assessing certain fees to coal mine operators	Senate EIM
HB 2985	Updating the Logging Sediment Control Act	Completed Legislation
HB 3099	Marcellus Gas and Manufacturing Development Act	(See SB 465)
HB 3126	Requiring railroad company provide pesticide safety information	Senate Transportation
HB 3204	Creating WV Enterprise Resource Planning Board	Senate Gov Org

- We will have the final fate of these, and other bills of interest to us in our *Legislative Wrap Up* newsletter published post-session.



Calendar of Events



March 8: Women on the Bridge. Southside Bridge, 12:00 noon. Celebrate 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, and in support of women victims of war. Unites women, men and children all over the world – women building the bridges of peace and hope.

Visit: www.Progressivity.com/MeetMeOnTheBridge to sign up and participate.

March 12: Last day of legislative session.

March 14: "The True Cost of Coal" – An interactive discussion and giant illustration. The Beehive Collective created this narrative illustration that explores the complex story of mountaintop removal coal mining and the broader impacts of coal in Appalachia and beyond. The Shawkey Room, Marshall University Student Center, Huntington. 7 PM.

March 16: Public Meeting: "Algae on the Greenbrier River". New River Community & Technical College auditorium - 101 Church Street, Lewisburg WV, at 7 PM. James Summers and Dennis Stottlemeyer of the WV Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will discuss the science behind algal growth and current regulations and efforts related to this issue. Concerned citizens and public officials are encouraged to attend. Sponsored by the Friends of the Lower Greenbrier River (FOLGR).

For more information: (304) 445-2005 or renee@lowergreenbrierriver.org

March 20: Spring Recreational Paddle – down the Greenbrier River. Meet at the FOLGR office (100 Monroe St., Alderson at 10 AM.

Cost is FREE. Register by Friday, March 18th.

For more information and to register: (304) 445-2005 or renee@lowergreenbrierriver.org

March 22: WVEC "Green Jam" Benefit with Kodac Harrison. To be held at the Empty Glass, 410 Elizabeth Street, Charleston. From 6 pm – 9 pm.

April 1-2: Citizen Enforcement Training. To be held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Charleston. Participants will be trained in reading and understanding mine permits, identifying violations and more. This training is intended for coalfield residents, organizers and activists. Sponsored by Coal River Mountain Watch and Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition.

For more information and registration: William Levendis (304) 854-2182 or walevendis@gmail.com

April 2-6: 6th Annual "Week in Washington". Organized by The Alliance for Appalachia. Opportunity to pass the Clean Water Protection Act and the Appalachia Restoration Act.

For more information and to register: www.ilovemountains.org or call (304) 546-8473

April 16: "A Sustainable Affair" – Celebration! Davis & Elkins College campus, Elkins WV. Sustainable Living for WV and the Center for Sustainability Studies of D&E celebrate over 10 years of sustainability initiatives and fairs. Beginning at 4:00 PM - Halliehurst Mansion: Wine Tasting, music, Group of 12 juried vendors (green energy, agriculture, local artisans); 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM - "Sustainable Feast" dinner. Join us at the "Ice House" on campus from 9:00 PM till Midnight with live music by **Fox Hunt!**

For more information: deniseap@earthlink.net

April 17: WVEC Board of Directors meeting. Elkins.

May 19-21: The New River Symposium, "Bridging the Gaps: Collaborations for Sustainability" – Concord University, Athens WV.

For more information contact: Dr. Roy Ramthun – rramthun@concord.edu

May 27-30: Heartwood's 21st Annual Forest Council. To be held at Camp Ahistadi, Damascus, Virginia. Join Heartwood as they focus on Energy. Hosted by Southern Appalachian Mountain Stewards, The Clinch Coalition, Mountain Justice, The Alliance for Appalachia, Dogwood Alliance and Wild South.

For more information: katey.lauer@theallianceforappalachia.org or (304) 546-8473

Legislative Session 2011 Information Sources:

Legislative Reference & Information Center:

MB-27, Bld. 1 - State Capitol Complex, Charleston WV 25305

WV Legislative web-site: www.legis.state.wv.us

(For bill tracking, bulletin board (journals), legislators' e-mails.)

To Call Toll Free: 1-877-565-3447 or local Charleston area: (304) 347-4836

Listen Live: West Virginia Legislature page <http://www.legis.state.wv.us/> and click on "listen live."

WV Environmental Council Web-site: www.wvecouncil.org

WVEC Office: (304) 414-0143

Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition:

www.ohvec.org/ovec_news.html and www.ohvec.org/news_gen.html daily.

Every morning, OVEC checks scores of news sources and posts links.

Legislative Update is published by the West Virginia Environmental Council (WVEC) – a statewide organization dedicated to facilitating communication and cooperation among citizens in promoting environmental protection in West Virginia. *Legislative Update* is published weekly during the regular Legislative Session.

We welcome letters, articles, and artwork from readers and reserve the right to edit or reject submissions. Please send materials to Denise Poole, editor at deniseap@earthlink.net

Support the West Virginia Environmental Council

2206 Washington Street East, Charleston WV 25311

Phone: (304) 414-0143 www.wvecouncil.org

_____ Renewed Membership _____ New Membership
_____ Change of Address _____ Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

County: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Student / Senior:	_____ \$10	Regular:	_____ \$25
Seedling:	_____ \$50	Sustaining:	_____ \$100
Enviro Steward:	_____ \$250	Canopy:	_____ \$500
Old Growth:	_____ \$1,000	Other:	_____