# Monongahela River TDS Concerns



Division of Water and Waste Management

#### Patrick Campbell, WVDEP-DWWM December 3rd, 2009



## What is TDS?

- Total Dissolved Solids (milligrams per liter) (mg/l)
  - Amount of dissolved matter in water
  - Ocean water 35,000 mg/l
  - Fresh water normally less than 100 200 mg/l
  - Rain less than 10 mg/l
- PA WQ Standard to protect drinking water use = 500 mg/l (monthly average @ POI)
- WV currently has no TDS standard
- Conventional Treatment not effective



### What's the Concern?

- -Widely known effects on drinking water and industrial users in fall 2008
- -River exceeded PA's criteria
- -Much public and government focus since then



## WV Determination of Mon Significant TDS Sources

- Active and Abandoned Mine Drainage
- Power Plant Discharges
- POTW's
- Industrial Discharges
- No untreated Marcellus Discharges



### **Current & Future Directions**

- Existing facilities given monitoring requirements@reissuance
- New facilities will be given effluent limitations
- Increased ambient and continuous monitoring underway
- Extensive monitoring for select tributaries underway
- TDS criteria debate beginning



#### **≊USGS**



#### **November/December 2009**



USGS 394337079544201 MONONGAHELA RIVER AT POINT MARION, PA



### Thanks for your interest!

#### Mon River – Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l) Courtesy PADEP

