

**SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION**  
1721 North Front Street • Harrisburg, PA 17102-2391 • www.srbc.net

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** Susan Obleski  
Director of Communications  
Susquehanna River Basin Commission  
Office: (717) 238-0423, x316  
Cell: (717) 215-7278

**SRBC TAKES ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST BALCO  
DEVELOPMENT AND EAGLE ROCK RESORT CO.**

HARRISBURG, Pa. – The Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) yesterday took enforcement action against two Pennsylvania facilities for violating SRBC’s water withdrawal and consumptive use regulations. The commissioners – representing the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York and the federal government – unanimously accepted a combined \$45,000 settlement from Balco Development–Windsor Heights Golf Course, located in Hemlock Township, Columbia County, and imposed an initial \$34,000 penalty on Eagle Rock Resort Co., located in Black Creek and Hazel Townships, Luzerne County and East Union Township, Schuylkill County. The commissioners deferred the imposition of additional penalties on Eagle Rock Resort Co. pending further review of the case.

Balco Development – Windsor Heights Golf Course was cited for withdrawing and using groundwater without prior approval from SRBC between 2000 and 2003 for golf course irrigation. In yesterday’s action, Balco Development agreed to an additional \$10,000 fine on top of the \$35,000 previously assessed. This week, the facility submitted an application to SRBC for approval to withdraw 216,000 gallons per day (gpd) of groundwater and to consumptively use 337,868 gpd. SRBC will require full compliance before taking action on this application.

Eagle Rock Resort Co., which was approved by SRBC in October 2002 to withdraw groundwater and consumptively use it for golf course irrigation and snow making, was penalized for exceeding its approved groundwater withdrawal limit and failing to maintain an interim downstream release while making the withdrawals. The facility’s existing approval from SRBC allows them to withdraw 800,000 gpd of groundwater from an abandoned quarry and consumptively use 450,000 gpd.

“The purpose of SRBC’s regulations is to protect the environment and existing water users, whether industrial or residential, from unapproved water use and to help avoid water-use conflicts,” said Paul Swartz, SRBC Executive Director. “These enforcement actions should serve as notice to other potential violators that the Commission is resolved to address them.”

Sponsors of pending water withdrawal and use projects in the Susquehanna River Basin must submit applications for review and approval by SRBC prior to undertaking the project. SRBC regulates large surface water and groundwater withdrawals greater than 100,000 gpd (over a 30-day average) and consumptive uses greater than 20,000 gpd (over a 30-day average). More

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information on SRBC's regulatory program is available on the web site at <http://www.srbc.net/projreview.htm>.

SRBC is the governing agency established under a 100-year compact signed on December 24, 1970 by the federal government and the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland to protect and wisely manage the water resources of the Susquehanna River Basin. The Susquehanna River starts in Cooperstown, N.Y., and flows 444 miles to Havre de Grace, Md., where the river meets the Chesapeake Bay.

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