



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DISTRICT OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

November 26, 2013

[REDACTED]

Re: 58 Pa.C.S § 3218 Determination
Complaint No. 288376
Shippen Township, Tioga County

Dear [REDACTED]

The Department has investigated the possible degradation of your water supply located at the above address, in response to an April 9, 2012 complaint that recent gas well drilling activities may have affected your water supply. On April 12, 2012, the Department collected samples from your home water supply. The samples were submitted to the Department's laboratory in Harrisburg for analysis. The analytical reports for the samples were previously sent to you, as well as documents that will assist you with interpreting the sample results. The sample results showed iron, aluminum, and turbidity exceeded the secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) established for those parameters. Primary MCLs are intended to reflect potential dangers to human health, while SMCLs reflect the aesthetics of the water (i.e. taste, smell, etc.).

Because unconventional well drilling activities occurred at gas wells within 2,500 feet of your water supply, and the pollution occurred and was reported within twelve months of drilling activities at those well locations, under section 3218(c) of the the Oil and Gas Act (58 P.S. §3218(c)), the gas well operator was presumed to have been responsible for the degradation of your water supply.

On April 18, 2013, the Department collected additional samples from your home water supply. The results of those samples were sent to you previously. The additional sampling indicates that any previous impact to your water supply appears to have been temporary, and that water quality has returned to background conditions.

Based on water quality sample results to date, the Department does not anticipate requiring any further action in relation to this matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Caleb Woolever, a Geologic Specialist with the Department, at 570-327-0546.

Sincerely,

Jennifer W. Means
Environmental Program Manager
District Oil and Gas Operations