



July 10, 2018

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Re: Water Supply Request for Investigation ID: 334513
58 Pa. C.S. § 3218 Determination
Wilmot Township, Bradford County

Dear [REDACTED]

The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is investigating the possible degradation of your water supply well located at the above referenced address ("Water Supply"), in response to a complaint received on May 29, 2018 that recent gas well drilling activities may have affected your Water Supply well. The Department's investigation to this point, prompted by information you provided, indicates that oil and gas activities are presumed to be the cause of the pollution of your water supply.

Summary of Investigation

On May 29, 2018, you complained to the Department that your Water Supply had become muddy/dirty. On May 29, 2018, the Department initiated its investigation of your Water Supply and collected samples. Samples were collected as shown in the enclosed table, and submitted to the Department's laboratory in Harrisburg for analysis. The analytical results are enclosed as well.

The May 29, 2018 sample results from the Water Supply showed that the Water Supply had levels of turbidity and manganese above Maximum Containment Levels (MCLs). Specifically, the Department's May 29, 2018 sample results revealed turbidity was detected at 5.13 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) exceeding the MCL of <1.0 NTU. Manganese was detected at 1.33 mg/L exceeding the secondary MCL of 0.05 mg/L.

Because drilling activities occurred at a gas well within two thousand five hundred feet of your Water Supply, and the pollution occurred and was reported within one year after completion of those activities, under Section 3218 of the Oil & Gas Act (58 Pa C.S. §3218), the gas well operator is presumed to be responsible for the degradation of your Water Supply.

Additionally, the sample results collected by the Department on May 29, 2018 showed microbiological contaminants. Iron-related bacteria was detected at 2,200 CFU/mL and slime-forming bacteria was detected at 67,000 CFU/mL. Enclosed are documents that may assist in understanding disinfection and associated information regarding private water wells.

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It is the Department's understanding that you are currently being provided alternate water for drinking. The Department is continuing to investigate and work to permanently resolve this issue. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Brendon Logan, Water Quality Specialist, at 570-327-0514.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures:

Fact Sheet – Interpreting Water Supply Results
Fact Sheet – Disinfection of Home Wells and Springs
Results Table
Sample Results

cc: Stephanie Wharton (email)
Matthew Nuss (email)
Brendon Logan (email)
Sharon Steinbacher (email)
Complaint File #: 334513