



February 11, 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Re: 58 Pa. C.S. § 3218 Notice of Presumption  
Complaint No. 308786  
Herrick Township, Bradford County

Dear [REDACTED]

The Department has initiated an investigation of the possible degradation of your water supply well located at the above address in Herrick Township, Bradford County in response to a 12/22/2014 complaint that recent gas well drilling activities may have affected your water supply well. On 12/29/2014 the Department collected samples from your two water supplies (referred to as new and old). The samples were submitted to the Department's laboratory in Harrisburg for analysis. The analytical reports for the samples are included, as well as documents that will assist you with interpreting the sample results. The sample results from your new water supply showed turbidity present at 8.16 nephelometric turbidity units (NTUs) and total coliform bacteria at 5 (most probable number) per 100 mL which exceeded the primary maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 1 NTU for turbidity and 0 per 100 mL for total coliform bacteria. Total dissolved solids were present at 518 mg/L which exceeds the secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) of 500 mg/L for TDS. Pre-drill samples were not collected from your new water supply. The sample results from your old water supply showed turbidity present at 4.33 NTUs which exceeded the primary MCL of 1 NTU. Pre-drill samples of your old water supply show turbidity at 0.2 NTUs. Primary MCLs are intended to reflect potential dangers to human health, while secondary MCLs reflect the aesthetics of the water (i.e. taste, smell, etc.).

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

The Department is continuing to work to permanently resolve this issue. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Cain Stone at 570-327-3680.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer W. Means".

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

CID 308786

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**Enclosures:**

**Laboratory Analytical Results**

**"How to Interpret A Water Analysis Report"**

**cc:**

**Cain Stone**

**Stephanie Wharton**

**David Engle**

**Sharon Steinbacher**

**[REDACTED]**