



October 27, 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Re: 58 Pa.C.S. § 3218 Determination
Complaint No. 315272
Sweden Township, Potter County

Dear [REDACTED]

The Department has investigated the possible degradation of your water supply well located at the above referenced subject address in Sweden Township, Potter County, in response to a September 21, 2015 complaint that recent gas well drilling activities may have affected your water supply well. On September 22, 2015, the Department collected samples from your home water supply. The samples were submitted to the Department's laboratory in Harrisburg for analysis and some of the results were previously provided to you in a letter dated October 5, 2015. Additional analytical reports for the samples are now available and are included with this letter, as well as documents that will assist you with interpreting the sample results.

The sample results showed several compounds elevated above Department standards. Iron exceeded its secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) of 0.3 mg/L at a concentration of 4.75 mg/L, aluminum exceeded its SMCL of 0.2 mg/L at a concentration of 4.596 mg/L, and Methylene Blue Active Substance (MBAS) exceeded its SMCL of 0.5 mg/L at a concentration of 2.03 mg/L. 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.). Additionally, turbidity was detected at 168 NTU above its MCL of 1 NTU. However, this standard is only applicable to unfiltered surface water sources.

Several Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs) were detected, but at concentrations below Department standards: 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene at 1.16 ug/L, 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene at 0.611 ug/L, Acetone at 645 ug/L, Ethylbenzene at 0.457 ug/L, m/p-Xylene at 0.0718 ug/L, Methylene Chloride at 0.393 ug/L, o-Xylene at 0.512 ug/L, Toluene at 0.476 ug/L, benzene at 4.08 ug/L, and bis(2-Ethylhexyl)phthalate at 7.96 ug/L, as well as several Tentatively Identified Compounds (TICs). The presence of TICs are not considered absolute or confirmed by the laboratory, but rather, indicates a spike of a compound for which the instrument was not calibrated. Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate was also detected in the trip blank and may be unrelated to the reported release.

Because drilling activities occurred at an unconventional gas well within two thousand five hundred feet of your water supply, and the pollution occurred and was reported within one year

October 27, 2015

after completion of those activities, under Section 3218(c) 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 William J. Kosmer, P.G. at 570.974.2613.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures:
Laboratory Analytical Results
"How to Interpret a Water Analysis Report"

cc:
Jennifer W. Means
Dave Engle
William J. Kosmer, P.G.
Matt Nuss
Terra Tokarz
Sharon Steinbacher
Complaint File # 315272