

# MarcellusGas.Org

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**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

November 21, 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL NO.: [REDACTED]

Re: 58 Pa. C.S. § 3218 Notice of Presumption  
Complaint No. [REDACTED] 308 755  
Harford Township, Susquehanna County

Subject: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

The Department has initiated an investigation of the possible degradation of your water supply well located at the subject address above in Harford Township, Susquehanna County in response to a 9/4/2014 complaint that recent gas well drilling activities may have affected your water well. On 10/2/2014 the Department collected samples from your water supply. 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 showed iron in your water at 3.84 milligrams/Liter (mg/L) and the level of zinc to be 8.305 mg/L. These concentrations exceed the secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) of 0.3 mg/L for iron and 5 mg/L for zinc. SMCLs are guidelines regulating compounds that may cause aesthetic effects (taste, odor, color) in drinking water. The pre-drill laboratory results collected by Benchmark Analytics on behalf of Southwestern Energy Production Company on 7/11/2012 from your well indicated iron at 0.553 mg/L and the pre-drill laboratory results did not include zinc in the analysis. Additionally, turbidity levels in your water increased from 4.3 NTU in the pre-drill to 17.04 NTU in the sample collected by the Department. Both values exceed the primary maximum contaminant level of 1 NTU.

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 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 Gene Rickard at 570.346.5534.

Sincerely,

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

[REDACTED]

November 21, 2014

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

cc:

Jennifer W. Means

Marc B. Cooley

Mike O'Donnell

Gene Rickard

Eric Rooney, P.G.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]