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Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

321 North State Street
North Warren, PA 16365
December 23, 2008

Warren District Office

814-723-3273
Fax: 814-723-0964

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Re: CID NO. 260043

[REDACTED]
Act 223 Section 208 Determination
Sheffield Township, Warren County

Dear [REDACTED]

The Department has investigated, in response to your November 13, 2008 complaint, the possible contamination and diminution of your water supply by nearby oil and gas activities.

On November 14, 2008, the Department conducted the initial inspection of the spring. The investigation revealed at that time evidence of drill cuttings in the bottom of the box and an apparent diminished flow. Analysis of water samples taken at that time revealed elevated levels of iron (1040 ug/l), strontium (267 ug/l), and total dissolved solids (TDS) (232 mg/l). The specific conductivity was 386 umhos/cm. November 17, 2008, representatives from Howard Drilling, Inc. drained the spring box and removed the drill cuttings and other debris. On December 10, 2008, the spring box was re-inspected. At the time of this inspection the spring box was full and overflowing. Water tests taken at that time revealed that the iron concentration had decreased to 220 ug/l, strontium had decreased to 38 ug/l, and the total dissolved solids and specific conductivity had decreased to 82 mg/l and 77.7 umhos/cm respectively. All other parameters were well within drinking water standards.

As a result, the Department has concluded that although the water supply was initially affected by oil and gas activity, it does not appear to have had any long term effect.

Enclosed are the complete water sample analysis results from samples taken on November 14, 2008 and December 10, 2008, as well as a fact sheet to help you interpret the reports. If you have any questions or concerns, or if any future issues arise, please contact me at 814-723-3273.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Mader

Richard A. Mader
Water Quality Specialist
Oil & Gas Management

Enclosures

cc: NWRO
WDO

RAM:br

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