The Department has investigated, in response to the September 15, 2008 complaint, the possible contamination of your water supply by nearby oil and gas activities.

After reviewing the results of your spring water analyses, aside from slightly elevated levels of iron (a secondary contaminant) observed in the September 15, 2008 sampling, all other parameters were within established drinking water standards. Another sample was taken on October 16, 2008, and the results from that sampling indicated that all of the analyzed parameters were within EPA’s drinking water standards. Turbidity issues were also observed by the Department on September 15, 2008, with an apparent infiltration of sediment into the spring system. A substantial decrease in flow became apparent in the days following the initial turbidity problem. Based on this evidence, the Department has concluded that recent pipeline construction associated with oil and gas activity had caused your water supply to become contaminated with sediment. Actions taken by Seneca Resources appear to have rectified the problems with your spring, as on October 16, 2008 the quality and quantity of the water seem to be adequate for the purpose served by the supply.

Enclosed are the complete water sample analysis results from September 15, 2008 and a fact sheet to help you interpret the report. If you have any questions, or if any future issues arise, please contact me at 814-723-3273.

Sincerely,

Brian B. Ayers
Water Quality Specialist
Oil & Gas Management

Enclosures

cc: NWRO
    WDO

BBA:rm