



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NORTHCENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE

File

8/1/2011

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7010 1870 0001 7876 2377

Re: Act 223, Section 208 Determination
Complaint No.
Smithfield Township, Bradford County

Dear Mr.

The Department has investigated the possible degradation of your water supply well located at _____ in response to a 5/26/2011 complaint that recent gas well drilling activities may have affected your water well. On 6/2/2011, 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 indicated all compounds met Department standards for which a standard exists, with the exception of manganese. Manganese was detected at 0.15 mg/L, which exceeds the secondary maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.05 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, several compounds remain elevated above levels that were previously reported in your 11/10/10 predrill sample. Because drilling activities occurred at a gas well within one thousand feet of your water supply, and the pollution occurred and was reported within six months after completion of those activities, under section 208(c) of the the Oil and Gas Act (58 P.S. §601.208 (c)), 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
Oil and Gas Management

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