The Department has investigated the possible contamination of your water supply by nearby oil and gas activities.

After reviewing the results of your spring water analysis, combined with visual evidence observed on March 6, 2013 by Department staff, the Department has concluded that your water supply was influenced by recent oil and gas well development conducted by Carl A. McCracken III in New York. The lab analysis of samples collected by the Department on February 14, 2013 and March 6, 2013 indicated levels of aluminum that were in excess of EPA’s drinking water standards. Concentrations of iron, manganese and magnesium were also appreciably higher in the recent samples obtained by the Department than what were documented in a water sample collected from your water supply in January 2011.

Elevated levels of these parameters along with the grayish appearance to your well water are indicative of an infiltration of drill cuttings and/or cement into the ground water that supplies your water well. During the course of the Department’s samplings, there was no detection of methane or petroleum in your well water.

Enclosed are the complete water sample analysis results and a fact sheet to help you interpret the report. Please contact Brian Ayers at 814.723.3273 with any significant changes in the status of your water supply, or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

S. Craig Lobins
Regional Program Manager
Northwest Oil and Gas Office