

# MarcellusGas.Org

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**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

August 4, 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Re: 58 Pa.C.S. § 3218 Determination  
Complaint No. 301998  
Springville Township, Susquehanna County

Dear [REDACTED]

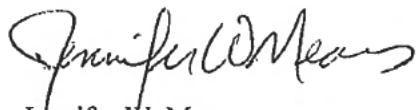
The Department has investigated the possible degradation of your water supply well at the address noted above in Springville Township, Susquehanna County, in response to a December 30, 2013 complaint that recent gas well drilling activities may have affected your water supply. On December 30, 2013, April 17, 2014, and October 16, 2014, the Department collected samples from your home water supply. The samples were submitted to the Department's laboratory in Harrisburg for analysis. The analytical reports for the samples were previously sent to you, as well as documents to assist you with interpreting the sample results.

As previously shared with you, the sample results on December 30, 2013 showed that iron and manganese were present at concentrations above the secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) of 0.3 milligrams per liter (mg/L) and 0.05 mg/L, respectively. Primary MCLs are intended to reflect potential dangers to human health, while secondary MCLs refer to the aesthetics of the water (i.e. taste, smell, etc.). Iron related bacteria were present in water samples collected on April 17, 2014, and October 16, 2014. Sulfate-reducing and slime forming bacteria were present in water samples collected on April 17, 2014.

Because unconventional well drilling activities occurred at a gas well within 2,500 feet of your water supply, and the impact occurred and was reported within twelve months of completion of those activities, under Section 3218(c) of the Oil and Gas Act (58 P.S. §3218(c)), the gas well operator is presumed to be responsible for the degradation of your water supply. Based on water quality sample results to date, the impact appears to have been temporary, and water quality has returned to background conditions.

The Department does not anticipate requiring any further action regarding this matter. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Andrea Mullen, P.G. at 570-974-2607.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer W. Means". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "M".

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

cc: Andrea Mullen (email)  
Michael O'Donnell (email)  
Marc B. Cooley (email)  
Briana Cunningham (email)  
Sharon Steinbacher (email)  
Complaint File # 301998