



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Document #1733487

February 15, 2011

Joe & Julie Cundiff
1465 CR 513
Ignacio, CO 81137

RE: **Complaint #200265927**
Water Well Permit #220143
SWSE Sec 16 T34N R8W
La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Cundiff:

Enclosed please find a copy of the results of the February 9, 2011 sampling of your domestic water well, located on your property at 1465 CR 513 in La Plata County, Colorado. COGCC staff has been sampling your water well for methane and hydrogen sulfide since low levels of these gases were first detected in your water well in May 2010.

Methane gas was detected in the sample collected from your well at a concentration of **0.92 mg/l**. The overall methane concentration has decreased from a high of 2.8 mg/l in early 2010 and appears to be continuing to decrease. Hydrogen sulfide has not been detected since the May 2010 sampling event.

Date	Methane (mg/L)	Hydrogen Sulfide (mg/L)
08/14/2008	0.002	<0.1
05/12/2010	2.80	0.3
08/16/2010	1.02	<0.1
10/28/2010	1.15	<0.1
12/09/2010	1.10	<0.1
02/09/2011	0.92	<0.1

Since the methane appears to have stabilized at a safe level we are moving you to a quarterly sampling schedule. You should be able to use the water safely in your home; however please remember your fluoride concentration, at 4.5 mg/l, is above the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) human health standard of 4.0 mg/l. It is recommended that you do not drink the water without treatment due to the risk of fluorosis – especially for your children. Elevated fluoride in groundwater is not sourced by oil & gas activities and occurs naturally in shales throughout our region.

And as a side note, I did discuss the practice of “blowing down” the nearby gas well and its proximity to your residence with BP personnel. If you remember when I was onsite last year they were conducting this activity and a strong gas smell was evident. At that time they were blowing the well down on a weekly schedule. I have been told by BP staff that they have assessed the situation and have restructured the service schedule so it only occurs on a monthly basis. Should you have any questions for BP regarding this schedule, please contact Ms. Lindy Hanson directly, at 970-375-7547.

Please feel free to give me a call or email me at karen.spray@state.co.us if you want to discuss these results further. We will contact you in advance of the next scheduled sampling event.

Sincerely,
Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission Staff

Karen L. Spray, PG
SW Environmental Protection Specialist

Attachments: FCG Field Report

Cc: File #200265927