U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA to Sample Residential Drinking Water Wells

Dimock, Susquehanna County, PA

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III January 2012

Dimock Residential Well Sampling

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to sample private drinking water wells in the Dimock area.

Based on information we gathered while conducting the recent home well surveys, and on our review of sampling data, we have identified 61 locations where we would like to take samples. The number of locations may change as we gather more information.

The purpose of this sampling is to:

- ✓ Obtain complete and reliable data that will tell us if residents are being exposed to hazardous substances at levels that present a health concern.
- ✓ Determine if additional actions are necessary, such as providing a temporary, alternate water supply to protect public health.

In addition to sampling private wells, EPA has identified four homes, at this time, where we will offer a temporary, alternate water supply because:

- ➢ EPA's review of data shows levels of hazardous substances in the wells that present a health concern, and
- ➢ These homes are no longer assured of an alternate water supply.

Will My Well Be Sampled?

Based on our review of the available data, and on the information we received during the home well survey, EPA staff will contact those residents whose wells we would like to sample.

Sampling will be done at no cost to the residents and the results will help us determine if we need to take additional actions, such as providing a temporary, alternate source of water.

Why Is EPA Doing This Now?

Earlier data reviewed by EPA in November 2011 indicated that private well water posed no immediate health concern.

EPA has since reviewed additional information including that provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Cabot Oil and Gas, and Dimock residents that merited further investigation. This prompted EPA to conduct home well surveys which were recently completed.

Next Steps

EPA staff will be contacting residents this month to begin scheduling the sampling activities.

Sample results will take about five weeks to process from the time samples are taken. Once EPA receives and reviews the sample results, we will share the data with the residents and determine if additional actions are needed.

Questions or Concerns?

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For additional information about EPA's activities in Dimock, please visit:

http://www.epaosc.org/dimock_residential_groundwater

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