Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation

FOR RELEASE:
January 20, 2012

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Four Points on EPA Sampling Decision at Dimock, PA

Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation and others look forward to continuing our efforts to coordinate with the Dimock community and with state and federal regulators to address concerns regarding shale development in the area. We are disappointed that the federal EPA has undertaken a course regarding water sampling that seems inconsistent with what is known about Dimock and what was recommended by state regulators. EPA's zig-zag approach has caused confusion that undermines important policy goals of the United States to ensure safe, reliable, secure and clean energy sources from domestic natural gas.

Here are four important points to consider:

- EPA has presented no credible evidence to suggest that its new sampling initiative is a wise use of resources given the collection and analysis of over 2000 water wells that has already occurred in the area. More than ten thousands pages of this data have been provided to EPA.

- EPA's concerns are inconsistent with the findings of state regulators who have concluded after extensive investigation that Dimock drinking water meets regulatory standards. State regulators are closest to the facts, and most familiar with ground water and geological formations in the area.

- EPA's initiative marks a change in position for the Agency, unsupported by any new facts. As recently as December 2011, EPA told Dimock residents that their drinking water did not present a health threat.

- What is needed is an objective approach to dealing with community concerns - something missing in recent EPA actions. EPA's changing posture on sampling in

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Dimock is indicative of a broader problem of inconsistency with scientific process and a lack of cooperation with state and private sector parties. Cabot hopes that we can work with EPA to further review existing data and to establish a firmer basis for Agency decision making.