

RDA

Responsible Drilling Alliance

***P.O. Box 502
Williamsport PA 17703-0502***

December 7, 2016

Submitted Electronically by eComment
Mr. Kurt Klapkowski
Department of Environmental Protection, Policy Office
Rachel Carson Office Building
P. O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

RE: Policy for the Replacement or Restoration of Private Water Supplies Impacted by Unconventional Operations, Document Number: 800-0810-002

Dear Mr. Klapkowski,

The Responsible Drilling Alliance (hereafter referred to as RDA), a 501(c)(3) education and advocacy coalition based in the region above the confluence of the west and north branches of the Susquehanna River.

RDA appreciates the opportunity to submit the following comments on policy for the replacement or restoration of private water supplies impacted by unconventional operations.

While wanting to support the department's efforts, we find a number of areas of the proposed policy to be inadequate to protect the health and quality of life of families living in the shale fields. We have seen water supplies impacted far beyond the presumptive zone. We believe those families, or the Commonwealth if its waters are compromised, should be compensated if it can be determined where the impact came from, regardless of the distance or the time involved. We do not believe cost should be a limiting factor to proper restoration or replacement of impacted water supplies. People need a safe water supply that gives them peace of mind for both health and economic reasons. We question the logic of replacement by drilling into the same aquifer. We believe all of any ongoing restoration, operation, and maintenance costs should be born by those proven to have caused the problem in the first place, and that includes complete

replacement of necessary equipment over time as long as the problem continues, no matter how far into the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Responsible Drilling Alliance

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