



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

614/466-3543
www.odh.ohio.gov

John R. Kasich/Governor

Richard Hodges/Director of Health

December 8, 2016

Kerri Bond
24900 Britton Road
Sencecaville, Ohio 43780

Dear Mrs. Bond:

This is in reference to your radiological concerns about your property. The Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Environmental Health and Radiation Protection (BEHRP) has completed our investigation into the radiological concerns you have raised. Your concerns are listed below along with a description of how BEHRP responded to the concerns you raised.

Concern: Your GM detector shows high readings on your property. "Something has changed, they can't grow anything. The problem is coming from nearby oil/gas fracking operation". You indicated "We have elevated radiation levels and this is frustrating. There are 20-25 well pads in the area and this really is going to affect us all. I know for a fact they are pumping radiation down the holes at these pads. The animals are starting to be affected. We have sores around our mouths. I'm a nurse, I've never seen anything like this."

Results: **BEHRP performed a radiological walkover survey of the areas of concern, and found no radiological readings above natural background. BEHRP found no apparent radiological health hazard in the areas of concern.**

Concern: Uranium has been dumped into your son's well. You also had concerns about your drinking water and asked that your and your son's water sources be tested.

Results: BEHRP does not routinely sample and analyze private water systems for radiological constituents. Ohio EPA certifies laboratories that analyze for chemical and radiological constituents. The list of certified laboratories can be found at: <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/Portals/28/documents/labcert/Chemical%20Labs.pdf>. If radiological sampling and analysis of the water is done, BEHRP would recommend analysis for Radium-226/228 and gross alpha/beta.

BEHRP has also worked with other state agencies to develop a well water quality interpretation tool that can be used to provide information on health standards, health effects and water treatment options using results obtained from well sampling. The link to the tool is:

[http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/eh/water/PrivateWaterSystems/water_quality interpretation_tool.aspx](http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/eh/water/PrivateWaterSystems/water_quality_interpretation_tool.aspx).

A guide to water sampling for wells located near oil and gas development has been developed by the state agencies to assist well owners:

<http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/0/general%20pdfs/waterwellsampling.pdf>

Thank you for informing us of your concerns. We take public health and safety concerns seriously and will continue to do so within the bounds of our lawful authority. Unless additional information comes to the attention of BEHRP, we plan no further action on this matter and now consider the investigation closed. If you have any questions, please call me at (614) 644-2727.

Sincerely,



Stephen Helmer
Ohio Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Health and Radiation Protection