

Pa. DEP: Cabot well led to methane in water

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NICHOLSON, Pa. — State environmental regulators say a faulty natural gas well contaminated the water supplies of three northeastern Pennsylvania homes with methane.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection says an improperly constructed well casing at the Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. well in Lenox Township, Susquehanna County allowed methane to contaminate the aquifer.

Three private water wells were contaminated. A DEP spokesman tells The Times-Tribune of Scranton a fourth is still being evaluated.

The violation notice sent in September says the dissolved methane in one well was 57 milligrams per liter on August 18. It was 0.3 milligrams per liter before the drilling.

Cabot spokesman George Stark says the company takes the matter seriously. The company is supplying water to two homes. The methane level has decreased in a third well.