

Baker, Carly

From: doyle_t@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 9:53 PM
To: Baker, Carly
Subject: Horsham Township Water Line

September 19, 2012

Dear Ms. Baker,

It was nice to meet you at the Horsham township building. I am writing to officially respond to the meeting. As I had mentioned, our well back in 1989 was contaminated by gasoline by the Gulf station at the corner of Horsham Rd. and Limekiln Pike. He had lost 1700 gallons of gas and it was literally coming out my kitchen faucet. We had many meetings with the Horsham Water Authority and were told there was nothing they could do for us. We had to retain a lawyer and corresponded for ten years before we settled.

During those ten years initially the Horsham Water Authority would not let us drill a new well and for five years we had to deal with a hose running from our neighbors house for general use, laundry done at my mother in laws 30 minutes away, showers at my neighbors home, bottled water and two filters in the basement that were constantly being tested and changed all while having a baby for the 1st time and a 2nd one three years after. After five years of living like this, Miller Pump in Skippack PA, was able to get a permit from the Horsham Water Authority to drill a new well and cap off the old. The new well had to be cased with a concrete wall to protect the neighbors from contamination.

The cost of bottled water, filters being switched out, the old well being capped off, the new well being drilled with specific guidelines and lawyer cost was well over \$75,000. That was a lot for a young couple to handle without any help. At this time all our investments into our home has just plunged to zero. Who would ever buy a home that was contaminated by gasoline and has no running water.

The year 1999 the well was testing clean and we have not had an issue since. That experience has left us bitter since we had to deal with the problem and the expense alone. It is hard to revisit this issue all over again. I understand what our neighbors are going through, we have been there!

My first awareness of this problem was a few months ago. I thought that the township just wanted to run waterline and with that sewer lines. Once I was told that the DEP was looking into funding the waterlines from Balmoral to Horsham Road I could not believe it until I came to the meeting to hear it for myself.

I am for the DEP to fund all waterlines to be connected to all the homes at no cost to myself or my neighbors until the 1st water bill is received for public water usage. Although the filters and bottled water worked for me there was always an underlining anxiety and worry if something would come about the health of my family. I was always worried if my children were going to drink it, was the filter leaking gas?

Our well was just tested two weeks prior to your meeting and we tested safe. My understanding is that the DEP, if the ruling is to put in waterlines, would hook up to those with contaminated wells and those who are not. The wells that are contaminated will have to be capped and those that are not contaminated can remain open along with also hooking into public water as long as the well continually test safe. I am also understanding that the hook up would go into the home connected to piping in the home and the construction damage would be replaced back to how it was.

Once the ruling is in at the end of October, beginning of November and the waterline is a go. I would like a Representative to come to my home discuss how the waterline would get hooked up to our home and confirmation in writing that there will be no cost to me. You know the saying "nothing is for free" those are words to look for loop holes etc.

I appreciate your time and effort to help our neighborhood return to a healthy and safe environment. I look forward to talking to you in the near future.

Sincerely,
Deborah A. Doyle

Thomas and Deborah Doyle
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