

Post Road Potable Well Contamination Site

Fact Sheet

Buena Vista Township, Atlantic County

October 2014

**New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection
Site Remediation Program**

**Office of Community
Relations**

Phone: (609) 984-3081

Toll Free: (800) 253-5647

Fax: (609) 633-2360

**For more information
about the potable well
investigation or other
DEP activities at this site,
please contact:**

**Heather Swartz,
Community Relations
Coordinator**

**at
(609) 984-7135**

or

Heather.Swartz@dep.nj.gov

**CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor**

**KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor**

**BOB MARTIN
Commissioner**

In the spring of 2014, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) began investigating residential potable (drinking water) wells in southern Buena Vista Township after the Atlantic County Health Department determined several wells in the area of Post Road were contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and mercury above New Jersey's Ground Water Quality Standards. VOCs are man-made chemicals that evaporate readily at room temperature and are key components in a wide variety of industrial and commercial products such as degreasers, dry cleaning fluid, refrigerants and fuels. Mercury is a metal that is commonly detected in the ground water in southern New Jersey. The sources of these contaminants in the ground water in Buena Vista Township are currently unknown.

Between April and October of 2014, DEP collected water samples from 75 private potable wells on Post Road, North Union Road, LeJan Terrace, Cimino Boulevard and Landis Avenue for analysis of VOCs and mercury. DEP also analyzed the water samples for several synthetic organic compounds found in fumigants and other agricultural chemicals, and perchlorate anion, an inorganic substance associated with munitions and fertilizers. Thirty two of the 75 wells sampled to date as part of DEP's investigation were confirmed to have at least one contaminant present at concentrations above New Jersey's Ground Water Quality Standards. The organic compounds detected in well water included trichloroethene (TCE), perchloroethylene (PCE), vinyl chloride, cis-1,2 dichloroethene, 1,2 dichloropropane and 1,2,3 trichloropropane.

Residents whose well water is confirmed to be contaminated above New Jersey Ground Water Quality Standards can apply for Point-of-Entry Treatment (POET) systems for their wells through the New Jersey Spill Fund. The installation, monitoring and maintenance of the POET systems are provided to eligible residents at no cost. Information about the Spill Fund and a link to the claim form are available at www.nj.gov/dep/srp/finance/eca.htm.

For information on filing a claim through the Spill Fund, please contact:

Dominick Dortch

DEP Financial Services Element – Fund Management Section

Mail Code: 401-06J

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Phone: (609) 777-0284 Fax: (609) 292-4401

Dominick.Dortch@dep.nj.gov

If you need local assistance completing the Spill Fund application, please contact Buena Vista Township Clerk Lisa Tilton at the Township Municipal Complex, 890 Harding Highway, Buena, NJ 08310 or by calling (856) 697-2100 (option 1).

DEP will continue to work with ACHD and Buena Vista Township officials to evaluate ground water and drinking water quality in the area. Additional investigative work is underway by DEP to identify possible sources of the contaminants in the ground water. DEP will also evaluate long-term water supply alternatives for the affected area.

If you have questions about possible health impacts due to the contaminated well water, please contact the New Jersey Department of Health's Environmental and Occupational Health Surveillance Program at (609) 826-4984. For more information about the site contaminants, please refer to the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's web site at www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp.

