



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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General Assembly
State Capital
Denver, CO 80203

In compliance with Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 34-60-104 (III) (A), the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission is submitting its quarterly report to the General Assembly concerning the number of complaints received by the Commission. During this period, the Commission received a total of 43 complaints involving 46 issues.

The report is sorted by the type of complaint and provides information on the complainant's identity and the commission's response.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

BASELINE WATER REQUEST

Type: BASELINE WATER REQUEST

Date: 08/07/2009

Complainant: Bruce Barr

3381 CR 342

Walsenburg

CO

81089

Description of Complaint:

Mr. Barr requested a baseline water sampling due to nearby problems with methane in Poison Canyon Fm. wells.

COGCC Response:

Summary letter mailed to Mr. Barr. No impacts from nearby CBM operations observed at this time.

Discussed results on phone with Mr. Barr.

Type: BASELINE WATER REQUEST

Date: 09/23/2009

Complainant: Sue Lassiter

PO Box 36

Bon Carbo

CO

810240036

Description of Complaint:

Mrs. Lassiter requested a baseline water well sampling prior to drilling of the Anson CBM well. Her well was sampled as part of the Raton Basin Baseline Phase 1.

COGCC Response:

Water samples collected from the Lassiter domestic well for analysis of general inorganic water quality parameters, dissolved methane, VOCs and BART kits. Confirmed with Mrs. Lassiter that well had been sampled previously by the USGS as well as the COGCC (Raton Basin Baseline Phase I). Mrs. Lassiter did not recall that any samples had been collected as part of Amoco project in the mid-1990's. Samples delivered to Accutest Laboratories for analysis. All analytes tested are within the CDPHE WQCC groundwater standards. Comparison of data to Phase 1 baseline and much earlier USGS data do not indicate significant changes in major ion composition. Summary table of most recent analytical data sent via e-mail to Mrs. Lassiter.

Type: BASELINE WATER REQUEST

Date: 09/28/2009



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Complainant: Dr. Gerald Calvin P.O. Box 429 Fort Lupton CO 80621

Description of Complaint:
Would like the COGCC to resample his water well.

COGCC Response:
Resampling results shows no significant changes from 2008 sampling. Methane gas in water well is biogenic and not due to oil and gas activities.

Type: BASELINE WATER REQUEST **Date:** 09/29/2009

Complainant: John Vaughn 12650 Tuscon Street Hudson CO 80642

Description of Complaint:
Water well owner would like water well sampled.

COGCC Response:
Sample results show no evidence of oil and gas impact. Well contains naturally occurring biogenic methane gas.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

DUST

Type: DUST

Date: 08/10/2009

Complainant: Nate Dutton

Parachute

CO

Description of Complaint:

Complainant states a large amount of dust is being generated by construction of a 24 inch pipeline west of Parachute.

COGCC Response:

COGCC personnel traveled to the location of the pipeline construction. The wind was blowing at a consistent fifteen mph and a large amount of dust was noticed. This is a transmission line and therefore not within COGCC jurisdiction. Garfield County Environmental department was notified.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

FENCING

Type:	FENCING	Date:	09/09/2009
Complainant:	Karen M. LeBaron	5460 S. Quebec, Ste 250	Greenwood Village CO 80111

Description of Complaint:
Fences missing or down.

COGCC Response:
NOAV 200220867 issued November 12, 2009.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

GROUND WATER

Type: GROUND WATER **Date:** 08/06/2009
Complainant: Tom Parise 16700 NightHawk Ridge Weston CO 810919560

Description of Complaint:
Mr. Parise requested continued monitoring of his water well due to concern about results from nearby monitoring wells.

COGCC Response:
Overall water quality has remained relatively constant over the four years of sampling and analysis. Parameters tested are within the groundwater standards of the WQCC. No impacts to groundwater quality from nearby CBM operations observed at this time.

Type: GROUND WATER **Date:** 08/25/2009
Complainant: Bruce Hopke 99 Hawk Ridge Trail Walsenburg CO 810899633

Description of Complaint:
Request for continued monitoring in particular with respect to volatile organic compounds. Trihalomethanes were present at last sampling by Petroglyph.

COGCC Response:
Letter summarizing analytical results sent to Mr. Hopke. Fluoride concentration is similar to past sampling events and similar to other nearby Poison Canyon Farm water wells. MIMMP operations have not altered the major ion chemistry of this well. Volatile organic compounds detected in previous sampling were THM's and were most likely formed by well owner disinfecting the bore of the water well.

Type: GROUND WATER **Date:** 09/14/2009
Complainant: Shirley Dahl 8759 CR 55 Keenesburg CO 80643



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Description of Complaint:

Mrs. Dahl called to inform COGCC that she had gas in her water well. When water is placed in a water bottle, she is able to light it on fire. There are gas wells on either side of her property (McIntosh 42-21 API 05-123-22437 and Gerkin 33-21 API 05-123-233388) Both are Noble wells. She drilled her water well 6 months ago and had gas at that time. Well depth 810 feet.

COGCC Response:

Analytical results provided to landowner by US mail. 11 mg/L methane. Isotopic analysis indicates methane is of biogenic origin.

Type: GROUND WATER

Date: 09/15/2009

Complainant: Sarah Anderson

8755 CR 55

Keenesburg

CO

80643

Description of Complaint:

Sarah Anderson alleges that water well impacted by natural gas. Water spurts from faucet. Location is 1/4 mile from Dahl complaint (#200218056). No taste/odor issues, just bubbling water. Would like her well tested.

COGCC Response:

Informed Mr. Anderson that we had been waiting to set up sampling at Anderson residence until after preliminary analytical results from Dahl complaint(#200218056) were complete. Since Dahl results show elevated methane, staff told complainant COGCC would move forward with scheduling a sampling event for their well. Left message with the operator that the COGCC received another water well complaint in Sec. 21 T2N R64W. Requested they call the agency back.

Type: GROUND WATER

Date: 09/16/2009

Complainant: Bruce Hopke

99 Hawk Ridge Trail

Walsenburg

CO

81089



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Description of Complaint:

Mr. Hopke and the River Ridge property owners are concerned regarding quality of water from CBM wells that may be utilized in Phase II of MIMMP. Rohr 04-10, Rohr 09-10 and Rohr 09-04 are wells listed by Petroglyph as possible sources of water.

COGCC Response:

Water samples were collected from the Rohr 04-10, the Rohr 09-04 and the Rohr 09-10. Petroglyph has suggested use of these 3 wells as sources of water to be used in Phase 2 of the MIMMP. Samples submitted to TestAmerica and Isotech for analyses. PDF of analytical results received from TestAmerica Laboratories. Forwarded results to Petroglyph (Tom Melland) and US EPA (Valois Shea). Analytical results received from Isotech Laboratories via e-mail. Forwarded results to Petroglyph (Tom Melland) and US EPA (Valois Shea).



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

LIVESTOCK

Type: LIVESTOCK

Date: 09/23/2009

Complainant: Bryan Edgington

PO Box 1843

Rifle

CO

81650

Description of Complaint:

Mr. Edgington called the COGCC on 9/19/09, asking for assistance in investigating his allegation that his cattle had been impacted by ingesting fluids at an Encana production facility. On or about 3/5/09 a gate was left open and cattle got into a fenced production facility. It appears that the cattle drank water or other fluids.

COGCC Response:

Discussed Mr. Edgington's concerns. Mr. Gimmeson provided location information for the facility where this event occurred. Encana has investigated this matter and will be continuing discussion with Mr. Edgington. Encana will provide the analytical data for the water and fluid samples they collected and analyzed. In addition in March they had the dead cow transported to CSU for an necropsy.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

NOISE

Type: NOISE **Date:** 07/01/2009
Complainant: Betsy Rocket 377 CR 217 Durango CO 81303

Description of Complaint:
The thumping sound coming from the compressor is disturbing.

COGCC Response:
Noise complaint being closed out based on the fact that all noise readings taken were within COGCC prescribed guidelines under Rule 802.c.

Type: NOISE **Date:** 07/01/2009
Complainant: Brad Keirnes WCR 35 Greeley CO

Description of Complaint:
New compressor installation is too noisy.

COGCC Response:
Followup field inspection found 47 dbA and 62 dbC 25 feet north of residence. There was 50-51 dbA at the 350 feet south of compressor with traffic noise found at higher levels. A suggestion was made to install large hay bales around the south and west side of the compressor facility to help absorb and deflect noise away from the residential area. Weed control problems will be taken care of by Operator. Operator will contact complainant for installation of hay bales and weed control.

Type: NOISE **Date:** 07/01/2009
Complainant: Tom Melody 375 La Posta Canyon Rd Durango CO

Description of Complaint:



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Noise coming from pumping unit on this well is disturbing him. According to Complainant, well was supposed to be electrified but instead is gas fired.

COGCC Response:

Field Inspector has heard nothing additional from Complainant after the first conversation where he seemed happy with the implementation of sound mitigation measures. Complaint being closed out based on this.

Type: NOISE

Date: 07/06/2009

Complainant: Brad Keirnes

WCR 33

Lucerne

CO

Description of Complaint:

Noise from new compressor fan and exhaust noise is disturbing the neighboring subdivision 650 feet south of the well site.

COGCC Response:

Followup field inspection found 47 dbA and 62 dbC 25 feet north of residence. There was 50-51 dbA at the 350 feet south of compressor with traffic noise found at higher levels. A suggestion was made to install large hay bales around the south and west side of the compressor facility to help absorb and deflect noise away from the residential area. Weed control problems will be taken care of by Operator. Operator will contact complainant for installation of hay bales and weed control.

Type: NOISE

Date: 07/24/2009

Complainant: James Watt

15018 CR "M"

Cahone

CO

81320

Description of Complaint:

Noise from Doe Canyon CO2 facility is causing he and his wife troubles. Facility is also bothering neighbors-Cindy Tout/Earl Wegner, Kim and Kevin Lanyon, and Frank and Ann Boskovich.



COGCC Complaint Report

July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

COGCC Response:

Sound levels have been reduced by the temporary installation of trailers on the southwest corner of facility. Additional sound measurements taken on 7/26/09 fall well below COGCC night time limits under Rule 802.c of 50 dbA.

Type: NOISE**Date:** 09/03/2009**Complainant:** Joan Epperly

3015 Six Lazy K Road

New Castle

CO

816479683

Description of Complaint:

Complaint of loud noise coming from the Baily Compressor Station.

COGCC Response:

Complaint closed. No violation of Rule 802.

Type: NOISE**Date:** 09/14/2009**Complainant:** Matt Barnett

Ignacio

CO

Description of Complaint:

Noise from Elm Ridge Ignacio Amine Plant is excessive and is bothering him.

COGCC Response:

Field visit made by Inspector. Most doors have been closed on facility and noise levels are greatly diminished.

Type: NOISE**Date:** 09/17/2009**Complainant:** Karen Gunther**Description of Complaint:**



COGCC Complaint Report

July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Complainant claimed that the rig is making noises all night by blowing the doghouse horn and that there is a loud clanking noise at each connection. She also does not know why the operator has not placed straw bales around the drilling location to baffle the noise like they did on locations South of the current location. She says that she speaks for many of the people located around her subdivision and they have the same complaint.

COGCC Response:

Resolved complaint by talking to Noble Energy about the noise issues. They were more than accommodating in trying to deal with the problem by reducing the noise associated with the movement of pipe and calling rig hands to the floor with the horn. They were on the tail end of their drilling program in this area. The reason they did not use bales, was that they were outside the boundaries of the municipality and felt like it would not be a problem. Staff passed on the appropriate information to the complainant and explained the schedule for frac work and tubing the well. Staff also told them that although it was irritating, it was temporary and the operator was within the noise db levels. Staff also said that they could call if they had additional issues. Staff believes this resolved the problem.

Type: NOISE

Date: 09/18/2009

Complainant: Larry Lovecchio

335 Mesa View Road

Ignacio

CO

81137

Description of Complaint:

Complainant indicates that noise coming from this well pad, which has two gas-fired pumping units, is bothering them. Complaint came to COGCC attention via Anthony Martinez, La Plata County Oil & Gas Planner.

COGCC Response:

Complainant was contacted by Field Inspector and indicated that recent addition of sound walls had lowered noise levels to acceptable levels. Complaint being closed out.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

ORPHANED EQUIPMENT

Type: ORPHANED EQUIPMENT **Date:** 09/09/2009
Complainant: Karen M. LeBaron 5460 S. Quebec, Ste 250 Greenwood Village CO 80111
Description of Complaint: Exposed well bore and abandoned equipment.
COGCC Response: NOAV 200220867 issued November 12, 2009.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

OTHER

Type: OTHER

Date: 07/07/2009

Complainant: Michael Hattel, PG, REA

PO Box 369

Louisville

CO

800270369

Description of Complaint:

Apex Consulting Services, Inc. is doing ground water investigations for the City of Aurora for a surface water storage facility along the South Platte River. Apex has installed several ground water pizeometers, one of which appears to have significant methane degassing. Would like the COGCC to determine if gas is natural biogenic or thermogenic related to oil and gas activities.

COGCC Response:

Sample results show gas to be of biogenic origin and not related to oil and gas activities.

See following e-mail.

Attached in the gas composition results for the Golden Pit pizeo sample. It has all unmistakable signature of a biogenic methane gas (methane with a very minor amount of ethane) in addition to nitrogen, CO₂, and oxygen due to air contamination. No other hydrocarbon gases, which would be present if the methane was thermogenic (i.e. production gas). Based on the composition results we will not be characterizing the methane for stable isotopes.

Let me know if you need any additional help or if you have any questions.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

PIPELINE

Type: PIPELINE

Date: 08/14/2009

Complainant: Gil and Diana Evans

7987 WCR 19

Ft Lupton

CO 80621

Description of Complaint:

Landowner believes that a natural gas pipeline adjacent to property is leaking.

COGCC Response:

No evidence of methane gas impact was found on the subject property. Letter with supporting documentation sent to complaintant.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

PITS

Type: PITS **Date:** 07/02/2009
Complainant: D.A. Valentie 23085 CR 43.7 Aguilar CO 81020

Description of Complaint:
Violation of 2 feet freeboard. 2 pictures attached.

COGCC Response:
Letter sent to Mr. Valentine with copy of field inspection and NOAV that was issued to Pioneer Natural Resources as a result of staff observations regarding the pit at the Parachute well.

Type: PITS **Date:** 09/09/2009
Complainant: Karen M. LeBaron 5460 S. Quebec, Ste 250 Greenwood Village CO 80111

Description of Complaint:
Open pit.

COGCC Response:
NOAV 200220867 issued November 12, 2009.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Type: PROPERTY DAMAGE

Date: 09/02/2009

Complainant: Steve Roskop

25489 CR 53

Kersey

CO

80644

Description of Complaint:

Complainant is concerned about the land application of bentonitic drilling fluids at a property located 0.5 miles west of their home. They believe that drilling fluids may have migrated from the property to a stormwater ditch located near their house causing it to become impermeable and hold water. They want to know if this may have contributed to water in their basement.

COGCC Response:

No evidence of any E&P waste violations at Heldt property. No evidence of any drilling fluids on Roskop property. Water in Roskop basement likely due to unusually high seasonal groundwater elevation.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

RECLAMATION

Type: RECLAMATION **Date:** 07/27/2009
Complainant: Richard Blake 11501 CR 28 Lindon CO 80740

Description of Complaint:

Land owner says there are a lot of pipes sticking up at old tank battery site. He has been farming around them, but would like them removed. Also, said that he closed an old pit associated with location.

COGCC Response:

Determined that location was an orphan site. COGCC hired a subcontractor to remove all remaining concrete, pipe and debris. No evidence of historic spills or release observed during site work. Location was regraded to match existing topography and returned to cropland for final land use.

Type: RECLAMATION **Date:** 08/31/2009
Complainant: Wes Thomason 9540 County Road YY Cope CO 80812

Description of Complaint:

Areas along pipeline in Section 26, township 3 South, Range 49 West have not been reclaimed. Mr. Wes Thomason (Landowner) called Stuart Ellsworth to report complaint on 8/26/2009.

COGCC Response:

COGCC has no jurisdiction over gas transmission lines. Staff did contact the operator who did contact the landowner.

Type: RECLAMATION **Date:** 09/23/2009
Complainant: Puckette Land Company 5460 South Quebec Greenwood Village CO 80111

Description of Complaint:



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Puckett Land Company sent letter to Nonsuch on September 26, 2008 requesting that the pit be closed and pad reclamation started. To date (August 25, 2009) no response from Nonsuch has been received. Submitted formal complaint to COGCC so the matter will be looked into.

COGCC Response:

The pit, COGCC Facility #29247, is a permitted under COGCC 900 series rules and the COGCC has no grounds to force Nonsuch to close the pit.

Type: RECLAMATION

Complainant: Nikki Reckles

Rifle

Date: 09/24/2009

CO

Description of Complaint:

Operator is burying pit liners.

COGCC Response:

No violation was found.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

ROADS

Type: ROADS

Date: 09/04/2009

Complainant: Lisa Bracken

6500 road

Silt

CO

Description of Complaint:

Ms. Bracken called at 3 p.m. on September 3 re: EnCana mag-chloride (presumed) 6500 Road. She said that EnCana was going to periodically water the road, but not to use mag-chloride. Ms. Bracken was not so upset over the mag-chloride, but the amount. She said that it was thick and gooey, running off the road and "puddling" up along and in the road.

COGCC Response:

The operator replied that shortly after the COGCC heard from Ms. Bracken about this, EnCana was contacted. "We went out and corrected the problem." (The subs were "overly enthusiastic" in regards application of dust suppression material).



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

ROYALTY

Type: ROYALTY

Date: 07/23/2009

Complainant: Alvina Koenig

37603 HWY 5

Yuma

Co

80759

Description of Complaint:

This well has been in production since September of 08. Staff has contacted Gary Timmer ("Land Man") and Mary Costa ("Check Writer"). So far staff has not received any acknowledgement this well "Gardner 42-32" even exists nor any payment of may pooled royalty.

COGCC Response:

Alvina is now receiving royalties.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

SOIL CONTAMINATION

Type: SOIL CONTAMINATION

Date: 08/27/2009

Complainant: Chad Riker

715 16th St., SW Apt. 8

Loveland

CO 80537

Description of Complaint:

Complainant said that DJC Enterprises receives steel production tanks from oil and gas locations to refurbish them and dumps residual fluids from tanks on property. Stated that this practice has gone on for 25 years.

COGCC Response:

Letter sent to complainant stating that no E&P waste violations were observed on DJC Enterprises property.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

SPILLS

Type: SPILLS **Date:** 08/10/2009
Complainant: Dan Valentine 23085 CR 43.7 Aguilar CO 81020

Description of Complaint:
CBM pipe failure and leak. Discharge into live stream. Estimated 7500 gallons of water. May have leaked as long as 12 hours. Valentine Ranch LLC believes impacts to stream and land downstream occurred and requests copies of water test analyses.

COGCC Response:
Summary letter to Mr. Valentine and NOAV sent to Pioneer.

Type: SPILLS **Date:** 08/27/2009
Complainant: Fire Chief Litfin LaSalle CO

Description of Complaint:
LaSalle Fire Chief notified COGCC that there was an apparent crude oil leak in the town of LaSalle at a location next to the railroad tracks near North 1st St. and 4th Ave.

COGCC Response:
Issue unrelated to oil & gas operations.

Type: SPILLS **Date:** 09/09/2009
Complainant: Jennifer Damelio CR 30.1 Weston CO 81091

Description of Complaint:



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Operator is discharging CBM water from blow-down onto private property. The CBM water runs across the road and saturates my pasture. Complainant needs water tests to determine the impact of sodium and bicarbonates on my soil and vegetation. Complainant also want a copy of the permit that allows the operator to discharge CBM water in to their field.

COGCC Response:

Performed Field Inspection (200218049) of Wildcard location. Sent failed inspection notice to Operator via e-mail. E&P wastes discharged onto side of road from drip along pipeline. Unused equipment present on pad. No pit permit approved or in process for pit at the Wildcard well site.

Type: SPILLS

Date: 09/09/2009

Complainant: Karen M. LeBaron

5460 S. Quebec, Ste 250

Greenwood Village

CO

80111

Description of Complaint:

leaking tanks.

COGCC Response:

NOAV 200220867 issued November 12, 2009.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

SURFACE WATER

Type: SURFACE WATER

Date: 08/25/2009

Complainant: Bruce Meireis

WCR 63

Gill

CO

Description of Complaint:

Bruce Meireis water owner of pond next to wellhead complained the surface owner Kerry Cooper was draining the pond to reduce the water level for well pad operations. Bruce says that he reserves the right to control water retention and the operator will have to raise the pad around the flooded well should they have to workover the well.

COGCC Response:

Petro-Canada will work with the landowners and install a culvert around the wellhead during the dry season. They will not workover the well until a well pad and culvert is placed around the wellhead. All work will be set for winter and dry season when the water tank has low water level. The landowners and water rights owner have agreed to these conditions and will work with the operator.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

TANK BATTERY

Type: TANK BATTERY

Date: 08/14/2009

Complainant: Lane Osborn

Craig

CO

Description of Complaint:

Reported that a spill has occurred inside the tank battery, and junk lying around the pad site.

COGCC Response:

Issued NOAV on 07/13/2009.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

WATER WELL

Type: WATER WELL

Date: 08/11/2009

Complainant: Bruce Huebright

WALDEN

Description of Complaint:

Complainant noticed changes in water quality. A milky white substance was observed on plants from watering. Drilling activities were occurring nearby and therefore complainant wants to have the water checked.

COGCC Response:

COGCC retained Terracon to collect water sample from water well. Sample collected on August 31, 2009. Samples submitted to lab September 2, 2009.

Type: WATER WELL

Date: 08/12/2009

Complainant: Laura Sossomon

404 Silver Hills Rd.

Ignacio

CO

81122

Description of Complaint:

XTO drilled and completed a well a week ago and now her water smells like rotten eggs & her plumbing fixtures are stained red. Four Corners Geoscience was contacted and asked to collect water samples for water quality and gas analysis.

COGCC Response:

Data indicate biogenic gas origin. Aggressive iron- and sulfur-reducing bacteria present. Sent information on dealing with bacteria in well.

Type: WATER WELL

Date: 08/17/2009

Complainant: Shirly Farrow

715 Rainbow Road

Durango

CO

81303

Description of Complaint:



COGCC Complaint Report

July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Homeowner concerned about "silicon sand" in household water. House supplied by spring in a small community water system.

COGCC Response:

Sand determined to be glass beads - probably from a water softener system. Not related to oil and gas development. Local water system operator to follow up with home owner association. No further action for COGCC.

Type: WATER WELL

Date: 09/01/2009

Complainant: Norm Anderson

22063 CR 42

LaSalle

CO

80645

Description of Complaint:

Complainant is concerned about possible contamination to his water well that he believes may have resulted from a tubing leak at a nearby oil & gas well. Complainant stated that there were bubbles coming up in standing water at the wellhead of the Branch 0-6-23 well operated by Encana approx 1.5 years ago. He said the well was repaired since that time. He installed a new water well in April 2009 and the water from the well bubbles.

COGCC Response:

Terracon sampled Mr. Anderson's water well on behalf of COGCC on August 11, 2009. Dissolved methane result was 17 mg/L and Toluene was detected @ 12 ug/L. Sample was also sent to Isotech for isotopic composition. Results of isotopic carbon plot well within thermogenic gas range. Based on analytical results the water well appears to have been impacted by a thermogenic gas source. Encana checked the bradenhead pressures of surrounding wells and did not find any abnormal pressures.

Type: WATER WELL

Date: 09/14/2009

Complainant: Ben Jason

1741 CR 302

Durango

CO

81301



COGCC Complaint Report

July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

Description of Complaint:

Complainant is requesting his water well be included in BP's testing plan as he feels his well is closer than wells chosen for testing and he is concerned about potential groundwater contamination.

COGCC Response:

Field Inspector has heard nothing back from Complainant since he was contacted by Operator. Complaint being closed out.



COGCC Complaint Report July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009

WEEDS

Type: WEEDS

Date: 07/06/2009

Complainant: Anonymous

Battlement Mesa

Description of Complaint:

J K called by Steve Anthony, Garfield County Vegetation Manager (& "weed coordinator") on July 1 (or 7/2).

Mr. Anthony had been contacted by a resident of Battlement Mesa who lives near the proposed "G" pad to be constructed at the SE area of Bat. Mesa by Antero. The resident was concerned about the presence of weeds. Allegedly, Antero had informed the resident (&/or Mr. Anthony) that there were "no noxious weeds."

J K contacted Antero to arrange a meeting at the location with an Antero Rep, the GarCo rep (S> Anthony) and JK (COGCC) to look at the area. This has been scheduled at 1:30 PM July 7.

COGCC Response:

Antero will start on inventorying weeds, and begin steps toward mitigation