



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

EHS Circular Letter 2010-61

To: Local Directors of Health
Chief Sanitarians

From: Private Well Program

Date: September 23, 2010

Subject: Water Testing of “Repaired” Wells – Hydrofracking

Intermittent climate variations may cause extended periods of little or no precipitation often resulting in drought conditions. This lack of natural rainfall causes existing ground water levels to drop which leads to the failure of domestic wells that are fed by these aquifers. Now, with the utilization of a new technology, from the oil/gas drilling industry called “hydrofracking”, many of these affected potable wells can have their original yields restored or nearly restored. Homeowners are turning to licensed well drillers to either deepen or hydrofrack their failing wells.

These actions are considered well repairs by the CT Well Drilling Code and require the necessary Well Permit. It is highly probable that when these wells are deepened or hydrofracked, new aquifers will be encountered or restored that will have waters of unknown quality. When the permit is issued to the well driller it should be made clear that after the well repair is completed and the well disinfected, the well water should be tested pursuant to section 19-13-B101 of the CT Public Health Code to determine compliance with all included parameters before the repaired well is approved for use.

By following this procedure the potability of the well serving the home will be assured.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., M.P.H., Chief, Environmental Health Section
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