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July 6, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
Attn: Director Julie Murphy
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, Colorado 80203
Julie.murphy@state.co.us

Re: **Urgent** – Natural Gas – Home Safety Advisement

Dear Ms. Murphy and counsel:

This letter is sent with urgency, as it pertains to excessive levels of natural gas found in a homeowner's drinking water in Weld County.

Our firm represents Deb and Daniel Sauer, owners of a 20-acre tract of land in the NE/4 of Section 17, Township 1 North, Range 65 West ("Property"). The Sauers live on the Property and obtain their water from a water well on the Property.

K.P. Kauffman ("KPK") operates the old Maul 20-2 vertical well, drilled to the Codell formation and located approximately 80 feet south of the Property.

In October, 2017, Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Onshore LP ("KMOG") spud the Robin horizontal wells to produce the minerals immediately adjacent to and east of the Property in the Codell and Niobrara formations. In June, 2018, KMOG spud the English Farms horizontal wells to produce the oil and gas immediately underlying the Property in the Codell and Niobrara formations.

The Sauers drilled their water well in late March, 2018, which they located pursuant to a permit from the State. Since operation of the water well began, they have experienced excessive amounts of natural gas in their water, identified by water sputtering, due to gas bubbles in the water, when running the faucets. In early June, they tested the water with a match, and it immediately caught fire. The condition of the water has worsened since the English Farms wells were spud.

Presumably in the normal course of business and pursuant to Commission rules, KMOG sent a third party contractor to the Property to conduct baseline testing at the water well. The contractor was unable to conduct certain work, due to elevated methane levels. Thereafter, KMOG personnel visited the water well to conduct testing. Testing was done on Tuesday, July 3rd. As we understand, KMOG has put a rush on the tests, and the results could be back as soon as today. KMOG did not conduct any in home testing for natural gas, which also remains a concern.

Ms. Julie Murphy
Page 2

We send this letter to the Commission with copies to counsel for the operators of the nearby oil and gas wells in the interest of safety. The Sauers ask that testing, to the extent that it has not been done so already, be done correctly, completely, and as quickly as possible. They also request that the test results be shared forthwith with all interested parties, so that an action plan for ensuring the safety of the Sauers and their neighbors can promptly be put into place.

Please feel free to contact us by phone or email at any time. My cell phone number is (810) 772-6021. In case of emergency, the Sauers can be reached at 720-935-3764 and dsauer608@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



Steven Louis-Prescott

cc: Jeffrey Fiske, Esq. (for KMOG)
Kelsey Wasylenky, Esq. (for KPK)
Deb Sauer