

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Yough River Gas Well Trouble?

Re: Yough River Gas Well Trouble?

Author: : JackM

Date: : 2010/7/7 9:26:59

URL:

Good that you were vigilant. When a truck like that pulls up and places a hose in the water, there is no way of knowing from a distance whether they are discharging a liquid or solid or only drawing water. With the threat about your camera and the general tendency of these outfits to cut corners, I'd say there was a good chance they were up to no good. If they were legal, you only wasted a phone call.

I would give DEP the location, a description of the vehicles, the names, if any on the sides of the vehicles, license plate numbers and any other information you could gather, including the pictures. DEP will check and make sure there is an existing permit to draw in that location.

As for whether they discharged (or "rinsed" their tanks), you would need more proof before DEP will make any such assumption. They know about illegal draws and if the outfit wasn't permitted, they'll follow the suspicion of an illegal discharge as far as they can. Unfortunately, proof-wise, you almost have to catch them red-handed.