



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

In Cooperation with the
State Department of Health

Thomas Jefferson Health District

1138 Rose Hill Drive

P. O. Box 7546

Charlottesville, Virginia 22906

ALBEMARLE - CHARLOTTESVILLE
FLUVANNA COUNTY (PALMYRA)
GREENE COUNTY (STANARDSVILLE)
LOUISA COUNTY (LOUISA)
NELSON COUNTY (LOVINGSTON)

Office of Environmental Health
Phone (434) 972-6259
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February 10, 2009

RECEIVED

John Chavan
1137 East Keswick Drive
Keswick, VA 22947

FEB 11 2009

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

RE: Health Department I.D. Number: 101-09-0041
Tax Map: 78-36
Albemarle County, Virginia

Dear Mr. Chavan,

Your application to construct a new well filed on February 6, 2009 with the Virginia Department of Health was reviewed in accordance with the requirements contained in the *Code of Virginia*, Section 32.1-164, the *Private Well Regulations*, and current agency policy and procedures for processing applications for private wells.

On February 6, 2009, you came to the Albemarle Health Department in person and informed me that you had been running out of water on a frequent basis. You went on to say that a State approved lab had confirmed the presence of E coli Bacteria and that you believed the water had a pronounced petroleum smell. I informed you that it would be a good idea to drill a new well in a different location and you later submitted an application to do so.

On that same day, I made a site visit to your property for the purpose of finding a suitable location for a new well to be drilled. Upon arriving on the site, you showed me your existing well in a sub grade vault approximately ten (10) feet from your house. I then asked to smell the water from your kitchen tap, and upon doing so, confirmed the obvious smell of a petroleum product. Upon evaluating the site further up the hill behind your house, houses were noted to either side of your property. After asking you where other neighboring wells were located, you informed me that your neighbors had drilled several dry wells in the past few years and that the County had allowed them to connect to the public connection.

Based upon the information gathered on that day, I am denying your request to drill a new well and recommend that you connect to the Albemarle County Service Authority Public Water line if you are able to do so. This decision is based on the fact that the contamination and its movement cannot be positively understood without further study of the underlying geology and what sources of potential contamination reside on surrounding parcels. Due to the possible contamination of your well water with petroleum, I recommend that you stay at a friends or neighbor's house until the situation is remedied. If you must stay at your residence, I strongly recommend that you and your family not ingest any water that comes from your well. You should drink bottled water and should use this bottled water for tooth brushing.

