



**United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**



**Flight 93 National Memorial
P.O. Box 911
Shanksville, PA 15560**

In Reply Refer to:

H4217

August 16, 2012

Dear Reader,

Flight 93 National Memorial (FLNI) recently made the decision to conduct drilling for a water supply production well on the Memorial property. This production well drilling project includes the design and construction of a new potable deep well to serve the new Visitor Center and Learning Center, and a non-potable water line for restrooms. The new production well will be constructed and tested to comply with existing state and federal regulations regarding public water wells. The drilling of the water supply well will commence in 2012.

In accordance with the Flight 93 National Memorial General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS), the National Park Service (NPS) evaluated several existing water supply wells in 2007. In addition, locations for three possible onsite deep wells in the vicinity of headwaters to Lamberts Run and Grove Run were identified. The other existing wells within the Memorial boundary, formerly private domestic sources, have all been investigated and confirmed that none of the existing wells are constructed in a manner which could be permitted for a public water supply. Also, the geologic settings and depths of these wells determined that they were unsuitable; because there is not a substantial groundwater supply to support public use at the Memorial. The 2007 final Value Analysis Report for the Flight 93 National Memorial, Visitor Facility, and Infrastructure identified the preferred water supply system as a new drilled well located on the Memorial property.

During the 60-day public comment period for the GMP/EIS, the NPS solicited comments from the public; non-profit organizations and from Federal, State, and local agencies having jurisdiction or an interest in the project. The NPS addressed public concern over the effect the proposed potential deep well sites would have on Lamberts Run or Grove Run. Consultation with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (DEPs) regional geologist concluded there would be no impacts to surface waters associated with drilling deep wells.

The drilling will involve the removal of surface vegetation in the vicinity of the drill site, drilling the well hole, installation of protective casing, and grouted and sealed to secure the well casing. The well will be screened, sealed, and capped in place. It is anticipated that the well would need to be drilled 650 feet deep. The well site could supply a daily peak demand of 10,000 gpd. The water quality of the well is anticipated to be excellent, producing alkaline water requiring no treatment other than disinfection required to meet PADEP requirements for public water supplies. The proposed Memorial water system may be required to obtain a public water supply permit from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) if the

groundwater requires treatment beyond disinfection. This water system would be classified as a Transient Non-Community Water System (TNCWS).

FLNI has consulted with several federal and state agencies regarding the proposed well sites. As a result of these consultations, and the DEPs regional geologist's conclusion that there would be no impacts to surface waters and the determination that the impacts of the deep wells on the natural and cultural resources will be minor or less, this project qualified for a memo to file.

Well drilling is expected to commence this summer and to be completed by December 1, 2012. Once the wells are drilled, completed and a determination about production capability is made, the Phase C – Construct Utilities project design will proceed. The project will include design and construction of the water supply system, including all necessary lift stations and storage required, to serve the future Flight 93 Visitor Center and Learning Center. Phase C is targeted to commence with drilling of a water supply well in 2012 with construction and installation of the water system scheduled for 2013.

If you have any questions or comments about the proposed well in the vicinity of the Flight 93 National Memorial, please contact Keith Newlin, Deputy Superintendent and Project Manager for Flight 93 National Memorial. He can be reached at 814.886.6121 or Keith_Newlin@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey P. Reinbold", written in a cursive style.

Jeffrey P. Reinbold
Superintendent