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CC: Date:

8/27/2013 12:41 PM

Subject:

South Jersey Gas - HDD

Hello Branwen,

This is in response to your question about the HDD process/ drilling fluid.

Drilling Fluid/Mud is a mixture of water, bentonite, water conditioner such as soda ash, and/or inert, non-toxic polymers continuously pumped to the Cutting Head to facilitate cutting, reduce required torque, facilitate the removal of cuttings, stabilize the borehole, cool the head and lubricate the installation of the Product Pipe. In suitable soil conditions water and bentonite alone may be used. During the Horizontal Directional Drilling process, the drilling mud helps to recirculate the soil out of the bore hole and create the void in which the pipe will be installed when pulled back from the opposite side. As the mud circulates to the surface, it is collected and pumped into a holding tank where it can be recycled for disposal and the water reused.

If you have any further questions please email or call me.

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