

Question-By-Question Survey Instructions

DON'T MAKE YOURSELF CRAZY!

DCS doesn't want this Survey to be overwhelming for you. Yes, it is comprehensive, but that's so that the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) can have as much of the information it needs as possible. Just answer as many questions as you feel you can, because the more information ATSDR has, the stronger the case will be to trigger a Public Health Assessment in your area.

There are a few required questions at the beginning and one at the end - the other parts are up to you. If you cannot or don't want to answer a question or if it doesn't apply to you, you can leave it blank or write "N/A" (not applicable).

If a question feels overwhelming, just do what you feel you can - and remember, we're always here to help. (845) 252-6677 or email DCS@DamascusCitizens.org

Don't forget to send copies of any supporting documents you might have (diaries/narratives, water tests, etc.). Supporting documentation makes your information even stronger.

Other examples of supporting documents are: air, soil, and health tests, animal illness records, letters, documents from regulatory/government agencies, photos/videos, & self-conducted tests.

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Question-By-Question Survey Instructions

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MANUAL USERS: Please begin use of these Question-by-Question instructions from the description of a “Multi-Household Group Coordinator” at the end of page 2, and end use of these instructions after Question #38. References to information “automatically inserted” into your Petition Letter do not apply to manual users, as manual users will enter the information into their Petition Letters by hand. *Required information in the **online version** of the Survey *must* be answered in order to continue to the next page of the Survey. Although the same rule cannot be applied to the **manual version**, the required information in the manual version should be considered equally important to trigger a public health assessment in your area. Online users will use the supplied comment boxes for additional details or comments. Manual users will use the space provided after a question, the back of the page if more space is needed, or an additional sheet of paper.

(Note - [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) links and [Submission Instruction \(Sub\)](#) links on this page are numbered so you can find them easily.)

[Click here for definitions of the abbreviations](#) used in the Survey, which can be printed for further reference.

Remember to navigate the Survey using the [Survey’s](#) “back” and “next” buttons, **not your browser’s**. Your Survey responses will be saved automatically when you proceed to the next page. If while taking the Survey you want to go back to change an answer, you can do so. The information in your [Petition Letter \(FAQ #9\)](#) will automatically update accordingly.

Do I have to finish the Survey in one sitting? No! If you’d like to [complete the online Survey in multiple sessions \(FAQ #17\)](#), all you need is an email address. If you don’t have an email address and would like to create an on-line email account free of charge, most public libraries can help you create one. If the local library is not an option for you, try asking a friend, neighbor or relative. As always, if you need our assistance with an email address or have any other questions, contact us by email at Survey@DamascusCitizensATSDR.org, by phone at (845) 252-6677 or write to us at **DCS, P.O. Box 147, Milanville, PA 18443**.

***A star next to a question means that it is a required question and must be answered.** Please answer all questions that apply to your Household for the best chance of triggering a [Public Health Assessment](#) in your area.

Confidentiality:

Check both boxes at the beginning of the Survey in order to be able to proceed to Question #1. If you don’t wish to, or cannot take the Survey online, [click here](#) to print out the Survey for manual completion.

Question #1. Household and Group Identification and Contact Information

Portions of your answers to this question are required* and will be automatically inserted into your Petition Letter. Please provide the contact information for your Household and, if you are participating with one, your Multi-Household Group.

Instructions: Question #1.

***Your Survey Impact Area (SIA)** is the area around your Household (or, if you are working as a group, Households) that you want to report as being impacted by NGE&P activities. The report (in the form of this Survey) of the impacts you have experienced, is what ATSDR needs in order to trigger a Health Consultation or Public Health Assessment in your area.

A **Household** can be many people - or just one - living full-time in a single residential unit, whether or not they are members of the same family. (For example, if seven unrelated college students live in an off-campus apartment, they would be considered a "Household.") A Household may rent or own the residence. (For the purposes of this Survey, "full-time" means four+ days per week and six+ months per year.)

Head of Household's first & last name, ZIP and the number of persons in your Household are required.* If you are unable to provide answers to any of the fields, please enter "NA"(not applicable).

The **Head of Household** is the person (male or female, 18 years or older) who will fill out the Survey. ATSDR will contact the head of Household when they are ready to assess your situation. Your Head of Household will also maintain all originals of the documents your Household submits to ATSDR and DCS. (Note - *Never submit original documents.)

Location of NGE&P activities: Some examples of oil or gas fields are Barnett, Marcellus, Haynesville and Green River Basin.

In A "**Multi-Household Group**" (MHG), Each Household completes a Survey individually, but then all Households in the group submit their Survey Packets using a Group Identifier, maximizing the likelihood of their impact area being considered for a Public Health Assessment. Multi-Household groups share resources, experiences and knowledge to provide the most complete picture possible of NGE&P impacts in their Survey Impact Area and Community-at-Large. A Multi-Household Group may contain as few as two households or hundreds. Your response regarding whether or not you are working with a Multi-Household Group is required.*

To create a Multi-Household Identifier (MHID), take the approximate **location** of your Multi-Household group (for example: Fort Worth), Your Multi-Household Group's primary **ZIP Code** (the first 5 digits only), and the **date** your Multi-Household Group was formed (for example, May 3, 2013 would be **5313**).

So if your group is located in Fort Worth Texas, has a ZIP Code of 76108 and was formed on May 3, 2013, your MHID would be: **FortWorth761085313**)

Question #2. How many miles do you live from an urban center whose population is greater than 50,000? This question is required.*

By identifying the distance between your Household and the nearest urban center with a population greater than 50,000, we are distinguishing between Survey Areas that are predominantly rural and those that are predominantly urban. If you live in an urban center whose population is greater than 50,000, please enter a "0" in the box. (You are zero miles from an urban center whose population is greater than 50,000.)

Question #3. Location of NGE&P Activities, Supporting Documents and your Petition Letter to ATSDR. Information from this question will be automatically inserted into your Petition.

Instructions: Question #3.

For each NGE&P company and activity you believe has impacted the members of your Household, please try to provide the site name, operating company's name, and the location of the NGE&P activity.

Use a separate line for each NGE&P activity site you identify. Sites can include gas wells, compressor stations, spill sites, accident sites and other activity sites. If you have more than 10 (or more than 5 for the manual version), please use the comment box and place a comma between each separate line item. Example: *Minisink Compressor Station, Millenium Pipeline Co., Jacobs Road, Orange County, New York, 10998, -74.5227823 , 41.3403826*. **If you are unable to provide anything else, please provide ZIP Codes (with four digit suffixes).** These are available from your local post office and online at any locator service (411, for example).

Tips for locating NGE&P activities and sites.

Usually, site information can be found on signs at an NGE&P location or you can check with the local post office. If you know the name of the operating company, try searching that company's website. Your state or local departments of environment and/or health should have records of NGE&P activities, accidents and complaints, but it can be hit or miss depending on the state or regional department that holds jurisdiction.

Supporting Documents

This portion of Question #3 is **required*** and will also be automatically inserted into your Petition Letter.

It is helpful to ATSDR to be able to compare **pre- and post-** (before and after) **NGE&P environmental test results**. If you have medical reports (radiology reports, lab reports, letters from physicians), veterinary records, photographs, videos, diaries, other correspondence or other narratives, please make sure ATSDR receives a **copy** of them. (Never send your original documents.) If you have documents not included in our list, please make note of them in the comment box and include a **copy** of them with your supporting documents when you submit the Survey.

Question #4. Additional Household Information

Instructions: Question #4.

Section 4A. This section of Question 4 is a short summary of more detailed questions that will come later. Enter the number in the answer boxes provided.

Section 4B. We have invited people who may live outside the [Survey Impact Area](#) of their concern (for example, a person with ties to the community, an elected official, health professional or other person with information) to fill out this Survey, as they can sometimes provide important information about NGE&P impacts.

Question #5. Household Members' Gender, Age, Pregnancies

Instructions: Question #5.

Question #5 asks about pregnancies that have occurred since NGE&P activities began in your [SIA](#). Enter the number in the boxes provided. Please do not leave any boxes blank. Where appropriate, enter “0” or “N/A” (not applicable). Where you are asked to list ages, please separate them with commas.

We ask you to include pregnancy information from both male and female parents, as some chemicals can have consequences for offspring even when only the father has been exposed.

Question #6. Distance of your Residence from NGE&P Sites or Activities

How far is your Household from NGE&P activities? If there are multiple NGE&P sites or activities in or near your Survey Impact Area, you may need to select more than one checkbox. (The distance choices for Question #6 and subsequent questions are standard for environmental surveys.)

Question #7. Distance between your Children's Activity Centers and NGE&P sites or activities

Choose the distances between all NGE&P sites and activities, and locations regularly frequented by the children in your Household. These locations may include childcare centers, nursery schools, elementary, middle or high schools, youth centers, shopping centers, playgrounds, athletic fields and other community centers.

Instructions: Question #7.

For the purposes of this Survey, “children” are those 18 years of age or younger or attending high school through their senior year. If there are multiple NGE&P sites or activities or if children attend multiple community centers, check more than one box.

Question #8. Distance between Adult Activity Centers and NGE&P sites or activities

How far are NGE&P sites or activities from locations regularly visited by the adult members of your Household? Adult-focused community centers may include colleges, places of employment, shopping centers, adult care centers, athletic fields or other locations.

Instructions: Question #8.

If there are multiple NGE&P sites or activities or if adult members regularly visit a variety of locations, check more than one box.

Question #9. Lifestyle Changes made by Household Members

Place a checkmark if any current or former Household members have made changes to the following since NGE&P activities began in your Area. If the answer is “none,” enter “0”.

Please provide as many details as possible. For example, if you moved to a new home because of NGE&P activities near your previous residence, please explain the specific reasons for that decision (despoiled water supply, air pollution, resultant health deterioration, etc.) If you’re obtaining water from a different source as a result of potential contamination, please explain what happened. Specify where the new water is coming from, how it’s being supplied (“Buffalo tank,” for instance), by whom, and whether you’ve experienced a financial impact as a result.

Question #10. Property Status: Ownership, Assessments, Values, NGE&P Leasing

When asked to choose between two options, type the one that best describes your circumstances in the box provided. For all other questions, enter the number of Household members. If you are unsure of an answer, enter “don’t know”.

Instructions: Question #10.

Among other things, Question #10 asks if your [Household](#) owns its own residence and if NGE&P activities have affected real property values in your [Survey Impact Area](#). Your Tax Assessor can provide you with documents concerning your prior and current tax assessments. Realtors can provide you with actual market valuations specific to your neighborhood or larger area. Your own IRS filings may provide answers, too.

If members of your Household have concerns about unsafe drinking water, use the comment box to detail how those concerns developed. For example, if a Department of Health, medical provider or other agency advised against drinking the water or if Household members suspected that drinking the water in question was leading to worsening of health problems.

Question #11. NGE&P Activity and Impacts Timeline

Your timeline of NGE&P activities and impacts begins with the date your Household first learned that NGE&P activities might be coming to your area and concludes with the date when members last noted NGE&P activities or impacts (which could be up to the present date).

Instructions: Question #11.

Question #11 seeks to establish whether impacts recorded by your [Household](#) in this Survey occurred before, concurrent with or after NGE&P activities began in your area. Enter dates in **mm/yyyy** format. (Example for June, 2013: **06/2013**)

Question #12. Exposures: Frequency and Duration

The following questions ask about your experiences with various exposures and how often they have occurred (frequency).

Instructions: Question #12.

This series of questions asks if your [Household](#) has experienced general types of exposures since NGE&P activities began in or near your [Survey Impact Area](#), as well as negative impacts experienced during specific NGE&P activities. **For manual Survey users, use the comment lines at the end of each part of the question.** For electronic Surveys, use the comment box at the end of item 17c to supply details for your answers, making sure to note which part(s) of Question #12 your comments reference.

Example: “*This comment is for 12-1*” or “*These details are for 12-7.*” If your Household has experienced exposure or health impacts other than the ones listed, please give details (including frequency and duration, if possible).

If you have test results such as laboratory (blood, urine or other) or environmental (soil, water and air), they can provide helpful substantiation of your concerns or clues to the changes in your environment. Be sure you’ve checked them off at Question #3 and include a **copy** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. (Never send original documents.)

Question #13. Signs and Symptoms

Since NGE&P activities began in your area, how many of your Household members have experienced any of the signs and symptoms listed below?

Instructions: Question #13.

The purpose of Question #13 is to help provide details for any of the exposures or negative impacts you noted in your answers for Question #12. (This question is for humans. Pets and livestock will be addressed later in the Survey.)

If you answer “Not sure” or “Other,” use the comment box that follows the question to explain. **If you have test results such as laboratory (blood, urine or other) or environmental (soil, water and air), they can provide helpful substantiation of your concerns or clues to the changes in your environment. Be sure you’ve checked them off at Question #3 and include a copy of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. (Never send original documents.)**

Question #14. Pregnancies, Births, Neonatal, Childhood

Unless otherwise indicated, the timeline for the questions is since the beginning of NGE&P activities in your area. Enter the number in the answer boxes provided.

Instructions: Question #14.

Question #14 asks questions about pregnancies and children. For the purposes of this question, “children” are those eighteen years of age or younger. We also ask about any neonatal (newborn) concerns your Household members might have and include several questions about childhood diseases, disabilities and disorders. Use the comment box at the end of the question to provide details about your Household’s pregnancies and birthing experiences.

As with Question #5, we ask you to include pregnancy information from both male and female parents because some chemicals – dioxin, for example – can have consequences for offspring even when only the father has been exposed.

“Birth Anomalies”: According to the [National Institute of Child Health & Human Development](#), birth anomalies are “structural or functional abnormalities present at birth that cause physical or mental disability” and that can result in fatality.

If our list spurs you to think of other details, add them in the comment box that follows the question. Remember, the more information [ATSDR \(FAQ #3\)](#) is able to collect from Survey respondents, the more likely it is that they will be able to conduct a [Public Health Assessment \(FAQ #3\)](#).

If you have documents that help support your concerns, be sure you’ve checked them off at Question #3 and include a **copy** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. (Never send original documents.) If you’re looking for more information or help beyond our [FAQs](#), DCS’ [“Gas Drilling Tech Notes Gas Extraction Research Library”](#) has many well-researched articles about the impacts of NGE&P activities on children.

Question #15. Medical Diagnoses

How many Household members have been diagnosed with new or worsened medical and/or mental health conditions since NGE&P activities began in your area?

Instructions: Question #15.

Use the comment box to give details of respiratory and other conditions diagnosed before NGE&P activities began, that have worsened since the start of NGE&P activities in your area. **If you have documents that help support your concerns, be sure you’ve checked them off at Question #3** and include a **copy** of them when you submit your Survey. (Never send original documents.)

Question #16. Hospitalizations

Since NGE&P activities began in your area, how many of your Household members have visited an emergency room or been admitted to a hospital? Note: An emergency room visit followed by a same-day hospital admission, counts as a single admission. If available, please provide diagnoses and other details in the comment box.

Instructions: Question #16.

Medical notes made by an emergency room doctor might include observations, recommendations for additional treatments or consultations. These notes and laboratory results (blood, urine, etc.) and environmental test results (soil, water and air) can provide helpful substantiation of your concerns. **If you have test results or other supporting documents for this question, be sure you've checked them off at Question #3** and include a **copy** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. If members of your Household wanted or needed medical care but were unable to access it, use the comment box to explain.

Question #17. Household Members - Impacts

Do you have concerns that a Household member's illness was caused by NGE&P-related activities?

Check "Yes" or "No".

Instructions: Question #17.

If you have a post-mortem report that applies to this question, **be sure you've checked it off as "other" at question #3** and include a **copy** of it with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. (Never send original documents.)

Question #18. Pets - Impacts

Do you have concerns that a pet's illness or death was caused by NGE&P- related activities? To provide context, enter the total number of pets (currently living or deceased) owned by Household members since NGE&P activities began in your area. (This question pertains to pets only - livestock are covered in following questions.) Enter the number in the first answer space. Enter "Yes" or "No" in the second answer space and use the comment space to provide the age of the pet(s) and how long you have (or had) owned them.

Instructions: Question #18.

You will be asked about details of the conditions of these pets in Question #20.

For all questions that ask about pet and livestock concerns, you can review the instructions for questions 11-17. Many of the same kinds of issues, events or details will apply to humans, pets and livestock.

Question #19. Livestock Owned

Do you have concerns that livestock illness or death was caused by NGE&P- related activities? To provide context, enter the total number of livestock (currently living or deceased) owned by the Household since NGE&P activities began in your area. Enter the number in the first answer space. Enter "Yes" or "No" in the second answer space and use the comment space to provide the age of the livestock and how long you have (or had) owned them.

Instructions: Question #19.

You will be asked about details of the conditions of your livestock in Question #21.

For all questions that ask about pet and livestock concerns, please review the instructions for questions 11-17. Many of the same kinds of issues, events or details will apply to humans, pets and livestock.

Question #20. Pet Conditions

Since NGE&P activities came to the area, how many of the Household's pets have exhibited the conditions listed below?

Instructions: Question #20.

If you can provide details, or have experienced conditions not on our list, please explain in the comment box. A useful detail could be describing the animal before NGE&P activities and then after. For example: if a cat's fur was long and thick before NGE&P activities, but thin or patchy after NGE&P activities began, that's an important change and should be noted.

An example for additional details for this question might read: *“Our household owns 3 cats and 2 dogs. We have noted 2 cases of canine rash and 1 feline death, etc. All cases occurred within X months of the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area and within X days/weeks/months of them drinking suspect water located within X miles of NGE&P activities in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346.”*

If you have veterinary records or other supporting documents (journals, photos, videos) for this question, be sure you've checked them off at [Question #3](#) and include a **copy** of them when you submit your Survey.

Question #21. Livestock Conditions

Since NGE&P activities began in your Survey Impact Area, how many of your Household's livestock have exhibited the conditions we've listed below? Enter the number in the answer boxes provided.

Instructions: Question #21.

If you have farm, veterinary records or other substantiating documents, be sure you've checked them off at [Question #3](#) so they will appear in your Petition Letter and include a **copy** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey.

If you can provide more details, or have experienced conditions not on our list, please describe them in the comment box. A useful detail could be describing the animal before NGE&P activities and then after. If your cattle reproduced normally before the advent of NGE&P activities in your [Survey Impact Area](#) but ceased to reproduce after, that's an important change and should be noted.

An example answer for this question might read, *“Our household owns 100 dairy cows. We have noted 15 cases of bovine weight loss and 6 cases of cattle that lost reproductive value/capability, etc. All cases occurred within X months of the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area and within X days/weeks/months of them drinking suspect water located within X miles of NGE&P activities in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346.”*

Question #22. Pet and Livestock Diagnoses

How many Household pets or livestock have been diagnosed with new or worsened medical or behavioral conditions since NGE&P activities began in your Survey Impact Area? Enter the number in the answer boxes provided.

Instructions: Question #22.

Use the comment box to detail new diagnoses and any resultant financial costs or product losses sustained by your [Household](#). Include the costs of testing and remediation. **If you have farm or veterinary records or other substantiating documents such as photos or videos, be sure you've checked them off at Question #3** so they are automatically included in your [Petition Letter \(FAQ #9\)](#), and include a **copy** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. (Never send original documents.)

“I am completing this Survey on behalf of 7 household members living in ZIP Code 12345. My household owns 5 cats, 3 dogs and 100 dairy cows. The following diagnoses have been made: 3 cases of feline dermatitis, 2 cases of canine lethargy, 15 cases of bovine tumors, 2 cases of feline digestive tumors, etc. All cases occurred within X months of the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area and within X days/weeks/months of NGE&P compressor events and within X miles of NGE&P activities in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346.”

Worsening of an existing condition can be very significant and should be noted.

Example 2: *“I am completing this Survey on behalf of 7 household members living in ZIP Code 12345. All of us have stopped eating meat grown on our property due to hair loss among beef cattle and the chemical content of our dairy milk. We are providing test results as noted at Question #3.”*

Example 3: *“To maintain our organic status, our household has instituted soil, air & water testing at a cost of \$xxx.00 per month, etc. These precautions have been in place since X months after the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area and within X miles of NGE&P sites in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346.”*

Question #23. Crops

Please tell us about the crops your Household grows for animal and/or human consumption including crops grown for both domestic and commercial uses. Check all that apply.

Instructions: Question #23.

This question asks you to differentiate between “before” and “since” NGE&P activities began in your [Survey Impact Area](#). If the adult members of your [Household](#) have noticed changes in their plants or produce, a follow-up question (#24) will provide the opportunity to detail those changes and any monetary costs/losses associated with them.

If you have agricultural records or other substantiating documents such as photos or video, be sure you've checked them off at Question #3, and include a **copy** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. (Never send originals.)

Question #24. Changes in Crops and Produce

For Households whose adult members noted crop or produce changes at Question #23, please list those changes in the comment box below. Also provide an estimate of the Household's combined financial gains or losses related to those changes.

Instructions: Question #24.

Please be as specific as possible when answering this question. If members of your [Household](#) rely on income from crops that have displayed signs of change since NGE&P activities began in your [Survey Impact Area](#), provide details about the combined financial costs or product losses sustained by your Household because of that change and include the costs of testing. If your Household members have not noticed changes but are concerned about potential impacts to their food supply, provide their reasons and describe any steps and costs of those steps your household has taken to protect your crops.

An example comment for this question might read: *“I am completing this household survey on behalf of 7 people. Five adults have noted a metallic taste in many of our root vegetables. 30% of crops requiring cross-pollination have not fruited. 30% of plants in the cabbage family (broccoli, bok choy, cauliflower) have developed black slime. These changes have been observed since X months after the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area and within X miles of NGE&P sites in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346.”*

Example 2: *“To maintain our organic status, our household has instituted soil, air & water testing at a cost of \$xxx.00 per month, etc. These precautions have been in place since X months after the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area and within X miles of NGE&P sites in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346.”*

Example 3: *“Due to the changes observed by our adult household members and the resultant loss of our organic status, we have lost 100% of our annual agricultural income since the advent of NGE&P activities and events in our Survey Impact Area. That loss amounts to \$xxxxxx.xx.”*

If you have records or substantiating documents, be sure you’ve checked them off at Question #3 so they are automatically included in your [Petition Letter \(FAQ #9\)](#), and include a **copy** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. (Never send original documents.)

Question #25. Wildlife Changes

Describe any changes in appearance or behavior your Household members have noticed in wildlife since NGE&P activities first came to your area, by providing details in the comment box.

Instructions: Question #25.

An example description might read: *“We have observed 5 cases of hair loss among deer, 6 assorted deaths without signs of trauma among deer, raccoons and skunks. All cases occurred within X months of the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area and within X miles of NGE&P activities in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346.”*

If possible, provide details as you did at Questions #11-17 and 21. **If you have records or other substantiating documents such as photos or video, be sure you’ve checked them off at Question #3** so they are included in your [Petition Letter \(FAQ #9\)](#) and include a **copy** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit your Survey. (Never send original documents.)

Question #26. Local Flora and other Environmental Changes

Describe any changes Household members have noticed in trees, shrubs, grasslands, air, soil, water resources and other plants and resources since NGE&P activities first came to your area. Provide details in the comment box.

Instructions: Question #26.

Example: *“Notice was taken of 75 cases of dying conifers, 3 instances of singed meadow areas, sour-smelling stretches of Anonymous Creek with attendant fish kills, etc. All cases occurred within X days/weeks/months of the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area and within X miles of NGE&P activities in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346. Here are the details of each event...”*

If you have photos, environmental reports or other reports, be sure you’ve checked them off at Question #3 so they are included in your [Petition Letter \(FAQ #9\)](#) and include a **copies** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit the Survey. (Never send original documents.)

Question #27. Household Satisfaction with Medical/Mental Health Providers and Insurance Carriers - Are they Well Informed?

Do members of your Household have access to medical and mental health practitioners and insurance carriers who are well informed about NGE&P activities, processes, chemicals, exposures and impacts on human health? Enter the number of Household members in the answer boxes provided.

Instructions: Question #27.

Question #27 asks about the knowledge base of medical and mental health practitioners and insurance carriers. Because it is important to identify health care deficiencies that exist in areas where NGE&P occurs, if your access to adequate health care is hampered by factors other than those we’ve described in Question #27, please identify them and provide details in the comment box that follows the question.

A sample extended answer for this question might read: *“I am completing this Survey on behalf of 7 household members living in ZIP Code 12345. Complaints were made by 4 members of exposures, new signs/symptoms and/or diagnoses since the advent of NGE&P activities in our Survey Impact Area. Of those 4, 2 members did not seek medical services due to lack of health insurance. Of the remaining 2 members, 2 reported that their medical provider was unsure what tests should be ordered and 2 reported denial-of-coverage issues with their insurance carriers. All of our members reported that NGE&P companies refused to provide a list of chemicals used at sites A B & C in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 1246. All cases occurred within X months of the advent of NGE&P activities, new signs and/or symptoms and within x miles of NGE&P activities in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346.”*

If you have documents such as medical records, follow-up exams, changes in diagnoses, etc., be sure you’ve checked them off at Question #3 so they are included in your [Petition Letter \(FAQ #9\)](#) and include **copies** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit the Survey. (Never send original documents.)

Question #28. Community Concerns: Quality of Life

Check off all items on the list that have affected your Household's quality of life since NGE&P activities began in your area.

Question #29. Community-at-Large

In addition to the personal impacts of NGE&P on your Household members and their regular activities, ATSDR seeks information as to how NGE&P activities have impacted your Community-at-Large.

Instructions: Question #29.

Your Community-at-Large encompasses areas where you work, shop, recreate and engage in community activities; and where your children go to school, engage in community activities, play with their friends, etc.

Question #30. Community-at-Large: Community Locations within 1/2 Mile of NGE&P Sites and Activities

Which of the following Community-at-Large locations are within 1/2 mile of NGE&P activities? Check all that apply.

Instructions: Question #30.

Questions #29-31 concern the proximity of NGE&P sites and activities to locations frequented by the entire population of your Community-at-Large.

Questions #30 and #31 seek to establish whether residences, farms, schools, hospitals, elder/youth centers, businesses, houses of worship, natural resources, tribal lands, etc. within your Community-at-Large, exist within 1/2 mile (and in question #31, within 3 miles) of NGE&P activities.

Question #31. Community-at-Large: Community locations within three miles of NGE&P sites and activities

Which of the following Community-at-Large locations are within three miles of NGE&P activities? Check all that apply. See Question #30 (above) for instructions.

Question #32. Reports to Government

Have reports or complaints been submitted by your Household to federal, state or local agencies about NGE&P sites or activities in your Survey Impact Area? If so, please try to provide names for the agencies, their representatives, the dates of your communications and the results obtained.

Instructions: Question #32.

If Household members have correspondence, date books, calendars or journals, those documents can provide answers to this question. Be sure you've checked them off at Question #3 so they are included with your [Petition Letter \(FAQ #9\)](#) to ATSDR and include **copies** of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit the Survey. (Never send original documents.)

A detailed example might read: *"I am completing this Survey on behalf of 7 household members living in ZIP Code 12345. 2 members contacted Agency ABC in January 2008 after methane appeared in our water well. They corresponded with Field Agent A. Seven months later, Gas Company DEF refused to provide Buffalo tanks or any other fresh water. Our water well remains unusable. All contacts occurred within X months of the advent of NGE&P in our Survey Impact Area and within X miles of NGE&P activities in ZIP Codes 12345, 12344, 12346."*

Question #33. NGE&P Citations and Fines

Have NGE&P activities, companies or sites in your Survey Impact Area been subject to enforcement actions such as citations, the levying of fines or closure? If so, please try to provide information about the name of the site, location (including ZIP Codes, GPS coordinates, or latitude and longitude) the ownership of the sites, the regulatory agency involved, and the dates - along with any citations or fines that were imposed. Has any restoration, correction or remediation occurred?

Instructions: Question #33.

Although the federal [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) (and occasionally your state department of health) might be involved in the investigation of an NGE&P site, most likely it will be your state's regulatory agency that handles oil and gas (like Pennsylvania's DEP or New York's DEC) that would issue citations and fines. The responsible agency may have a website with a list of fines and citations they've issued. If you're unable to find the records you're looking for on the website, try contacting the agency by phone.

Don't forget that an internet search will turn up news articles about actions taken against NGE&P activities that have been subject to enforcement actions such as citations, the levying of fines or closure. (See next page for tips on locating NGE&P sites and activities.)

TIPS for locating NGE&P sites and activities.

Usually, site information can be found on signs at an NGE&P location or you can check with the local post office. If you know the name of the operating company, try searching that company's website. If the actual location is not immediately available, it might be listed in a news article. (Companies will sometimes publicize new NGE&P sites.) If NGE&P is going on in the middle of a field and you're not sure of the address, plat maps can be viewed at either your county clerk's office, your county's real property and tax offices, at a realtor's or **online** through your county's department of real property or the treasurer's office. Another resource for NGE&P site information is your state environmental regulatory agency. (Its website, phone and other contact information will be available at your state's main web page.)

Question #34. Legal Actions against NGE&P companies, sites and activities

If you know of lawsuits or other legal actions brought against NGE&P companies, sites or activities within your Household's Survey Impact Area, please try to provide as many details as possible, such as the company's name, the NGE&P site's location including street address, ZIP Codes, GPS coordinates or latitude and longitude, year the suit was filed, names of plaintiffs, the court in which the suit was filed, or other detail.

Instructions: Question #34.

If you're not sure whether complaints or lawsuits have been filed against NGE&P companies or sites in your [Survey Impact Area](#), you can search your state courts or the federal district and appeals courts with jurisdiction in your area.

Question #35. Household Compensation

Have you received any financial (or other form of) offer of compensation or remediation related to NGE&P activities?

Instructions: Question #35.

“Remediation” or “remedial” refers to actions taken to remedy or fix sustained harm. Relative to NGE&P activities, such remediation might include fixes made to water supplies, property, byways, etc.

Use the comment box to explain. For example, you might write something like, "*After methane appeared in our water well in 2009, ABC Gas Company offered and/or provided money, fresh water, medical care to our Household. 5 of our Household Members benefited.*" (Please distinguish between an "offer" of compensation and compensation actually "provided.")

If you have signed a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), that contract may state that you are prohibited from even the acknowledgment of its existence. Please be cautious! Consult an attorney before completing and submitting the Survey.

Question #36. [Non-disclosure Agreements \(NDAs\)](#)

If your Household is considering signing or has signed an NGE&P-related NDA, please ask your attorney to review this Survey before completing or submitting it.

Question #37. For Office Use Only - Please Leave Blank

Question #38. Laws related to NGE&P activities

Check off authorities on our list that have enacted legislation, ordinances, regulations or policy changes related to NGE&P activities that have affected your Survey Impact Area.

Instructions: Question #38.

Use the comment box for details about the name of the government body which took the action, the types of actions taken, the reasons for the actions, and if you have it, a website address for the legislation, ordinance, regulation or policy enacted. **If you have documents relative to the actions, please be sure you've checked them off at Question #3** so they are included in your [Petition Letter \(FAQ #9\)](#) and include copies of them with your [supporting documents \(FAQ #15\)](#) when you submit the Survey. (Never send original documents.)

Question #39. Submitting your Survey and Supporting Documents **This question is required.***

Your "Survey Packet" is what you will submit to [ATSDR](#) and [DCS](#) after completing the Survey. It will include: Your completed Health and Community Impacts Survey, your Petition Letter to ATSDR (included in the Survey) and your supporting documents (no originals, please!),

Indicate how you will be submitting your Survey and Supporting Documents.

DCS is creating an independent, secure and confidential backup record of the Surveys and supporting documents sent to ATSDR. **When you send copies of your supporting documents to DCS** as well as ATSDR, you make it possible for DCS to ensure that your Survey information will not be overlooked or misplaced. It will also enable DCS to act as a link to ATSDR to help trigger a Public Health Assessment and Community Assistance Panel in your area. We will map and maintain a record of national impact areas and make every effort to find help for impacted Households.

If copying and mailing your documents is too costly, DCS is hoping to secure funding to help. Contact us by email at Survey@DamascusCitizensATSDR.org at NaturalGasHealthSurvey@DamascusCitizensATSDR.org, by phone at (845) 252-6677 or write to us at DCS, P.O. Box 147, Milanville, PA 18443 for help.

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