

## Gas Report from the Field

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*Broader View Weekly*, July 10, 2009

Last week two people called to report that Chesapeake is installing compressor equipment in the town of Erin. The construction is along Federal Road, about a tenth of a mile south of the Bixby-Federal Road intersection.

Frank Patterson of Van Etten stopped by to chat with the construction supervisor, a fellow up from West Virginia, on Friday, July 3, and took the photos. The gray equipment, Patterson said, is part of the compressor. The white equipment is the gas-water separator that will replace the existing separator equipment.

The construction supervisor estimated that the total cost for the installation will be about \$2 million. The compressor connects three of the wells in that area to the Millennium pipeline that is located just a few feet south of the construction. When asked which wells, the supervisor gestured in the direction of the Monahan Well on South Greenbush Rd, and then included the area around the compressor as well.

According to Patterson, Chesapeake plans to operate the compression station 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week. They intend to insert about seven million cubic feet (mmcf) of natural gas each day, and to do that they need to maintain a pressure of 1,400 pounds per square inch (psi). The equipment is rated to a capacity of 2,000 psi.

Only the fan will be exposed, Patterson said. The rest of the compressor will be enclosed in a building and the construction supervisor estimated that the noise level would be kept to about 40 decibels dB.

*Frank Patterson contributed to this article.*

### **Sidebar :**

#### How Noisy?

Sound is measured in decibels (dB) on a logarithmic scale. The threshold of hearing is 0 dB and a noise that registers 10 db is ten times as loud. A sound that measures 20dB is 100 times as loud, and so on.

Any sound above 85 dB can cause hearing loss, and the loss is related both to the power of the sound as well as the length of exposure. You'll know if the noise around you is 85 dB when you have to raise your voice to be heard by someone else standing nearby.

Here are some comparisons:

A whisper - 15 dB

Normal conversation - 60 dB

A lawnmower - 90 dB

A car horn - 110 dB

A rock concert or a jet engine - 120 dB

A gunshot or firecracker - 140 dB