

KY sues oil co. for water contamination

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

WHITESBURG, KY — The Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet on March 3 filed a lawsuit against Childers Oil Inc., accusing the eastern Kentucky company of contaminating the Whitesburg water supply, according to a March 5 WLEX-TV **report** on msnbc.com.

The Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued a warning on February 16 to Childers Oil after leaking diesel fuel tanks stored behind Letcher County's raw water source were found to have contaminated the supply. About 3,000 households in Whitesburg and in parts of Letcher County were warned to avoid using their petroleum-contaminated tap water for anything but flushing toilets, as *WaterTech Online*® **reported**.

Local officials are seeking a temporary injunction to prevent additional discharges into the water.

According to the WLEX-TV report, an unnamed spokeswoman for Childers Oil said the company has no comment.