#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8



1595 Wynkoop Street DENVER, CO 80202-1129 Phone 800-227-8917 http://www.epa.gov/region08

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Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mayor Bill Lewis Town of Neihart P.O. Box 36 Neihart, MT 59465

> Re: Administrative Order Docket No. SDWA-08-2008-0008 Town of Neihart PWS ID # MT0000298

Dear Mayor Lewis:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (Order) issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. section 300f <u>et seq</u>. Among other things, the Order describes how the Town of Neihart (Respondent) has violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWRs).

The Order is effective upon the date received. Please review the Order and within 10 days provide EPA with any information you believe EPA may not have. If the Town of Neihart complies with the Order for twelve months, EPA may close the Order without further action. Failure to comply with the Order may lead to substantial civil penalties and/or a Federal court injunction ordering compliance.

The NPDWRs require Respondent to provide a public notification of violations of the Act. For your convenience, we have enclosed some template forms to assist you in providing the required public notice. If you have any questions or comments concerning the form of public notice, please do not hesitate to contact Kimberly Pardue Welch of EPA, whose telephone number is provided below.

To submit information or request an informal conference with EPA, contact Kimberly Pardue Welch at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-W) or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6983 or (303) 312-

6983. For legal questions, the attorney assigned to this matter is Thomas Sitz, who may be reached at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-L) or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6918 or (303) 312-6918.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

fiane & Sipe

Diane L. Sipe, Director Water Technical Enforcement Program Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

Enclosures

Order Public notice samples/templates

cc: John Arrigo, MT DEQ Kate Miller, MT DEQ

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## REGION 8

IN THE MATTER OF	)
The Town of Neihart Neihart, MT	))))
Respondent	)
Proceedings under Section 1414(g) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)	)

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Docket No. SDWA-08-2008-0008

The following Findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by section 1414(g) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g), and its implementing regulations, as properly delegated to the Supervisors of the Technical and Legal Enforcement Programs of the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice, EPA Region 8.

## **FINDINGS**

- 1. The Town of Neihart (Respondent) is a municipality and therefore a "person" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
- 2. Respondent owns and/or operates a public water system, the Town of Neihart Water System, located in Cascade County, Montana, for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption.
- The Town of Neihart Water System (the System) has at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents and is therefore a "public water system" within the meaning of section 1401(4) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f (4), and a "community water system" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
- Respondent owns and/or operates a public water system and is a "supplier of water" within the meaning of section 1401(5) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(5), and 40 C.F.R. § 141.2. Respondent is

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> therefore subject to the requirements of part B of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g, <u>et seq.</u>, and its implementing regulations, 40 C.F.R. part 141, also known as the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWRs).

- According to a January 31, 2003 Sanitary Survey, Respondent operates a system that is supplied by a surface water source which draws water from the O'Brien and Shorty Creeks. The System serves approximately 190 persons daily through 93 service connections and is operational year-round.
- 6. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (the State) has primary enforcement authority for the public water supply protection provisions of the Act in the State of Montana. On December 10, 2007, EPA sent a Notice of Violation pursuant to section 1414(a) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(a), to the State and the System regarding the System's failure to comply with NPDWRs. The State elected not to commence an enforcement action against the System for the failure to comply with NPDWRs within the thirtyday time frame set forth in section 1414(a) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(a).
- EPA has provided the State with an opportunity to confer with EPA regarding this Order pursuant to section 1414(g)(2) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(2).
- EPA has provided a copy of this Order to the State pursuant to section 1414(g)(2) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(2).

## FINDINGS OF VIOLATION

## Ι

 40 C.F.R. § 141.551(b) requires public water systems serving fewer than 10,000 person and that use a surface water source to maintain a combined filter effluent turbidity limit not to exceed 1 Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) at any time during the monitoring period. Town of Neihart Page 3 of 11

2. Respondent exceeded a combined filter effluent turbidity maximum limit of 1 NTU on the following dates, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.551(b).

Month	Day
April 2006	6th - $10^{th}$ , $12^{th}$ - $19^{th}$ , 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> , and 29 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup>
May 2006	$1^{st} - 4^{th}, 6^{th} - 7^{th}, 11^{th} - 12^{th}, and 15^{th} - 21^{st}$
June 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup>
August 2006	$2^{nd}$ , $6^{th} - 7^{th}$ , $9^{th}$ , $11^{th} - 12^{th}$ , $16^{th} - 17^{th}$ , $19^{th} - 20^{th}$ , $22^{nd} - 23^{rd}$ , $26^{th}$ , and $31^{st}$
September 2006	$1^{st}$ , $9^{th} - 11^{th}$ , $14^{th}$ , $16^{th} - 17^{th}$ , $20^{th}$ , $23^{rd} - 24^{th}$ , and $26^{th}$
October 2006	7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , and 31 <sup>st</sup>

Π

- 40 C.F.R. § 141.551(a) requires a system serving fewer than 10,000 people and using a surface water source or ground water source under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDISW) and using conventional or direct filtration treatment to maintain a combined filter effluent turbidity limit (known as a "95<sup>th</sup> percentile" limit) in which the turbidity limit must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in at least 95 percent of the measurements taken each month.
- Respondent failed to achieve a combined filter effluent turbidity limit less than or equal to 0.3 NTU for 95 percent of measurements taken during January – October in 2006, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.551(a).

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(a) requires a community public water system to monitor its water at least once per month that the system serves water to the public to determine compliance with the

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maximum contamination level (MCL) for total coliform bacteria as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63(a)(2).

2. Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for contamination by total coliform bacteria during July 2003, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(a).

## IV

- 1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.86 (d)(1)(ii) requires community water systems to monitor their tap water for lead and copper during two consecutive six-month compliance periods.
- Respondent failed to monitor during two consecutive six-month compliance periods for January June in 2003 and July December for the years 2002 and 2003, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.86(d)(1)(ii).

## V

- 40 C.F.R. § 141.86(d)(1)(ii) requires small size community water systems, to conduct initial sampling for two consecutive six month periods for lead and copper. Upon determining the water system is below the action levels for lead and copper during those two consecutive six month monitoring periods, the system may reduce the frequency of monitoring to once per year during the months June through September, as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.86(d)(4)(i) and (iv).
- Respondent last monitored the water for lead and copper in September 2007, but sampled outside the required June – September monitoring period in 2005 and 2006, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.86(d)(1)(ii).

## VI

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.74(c)(1) requires Systems that use a surface water source to monitor turbidity at representative points in the distribution system at least every 4 hours that the System serves water to the public.

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> Respondent failed to monitor the water for turbidity during the months of April – November 2004, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.74(c)(1).

## VII

- For Systems using filtration treatment, 40 C.F.R. § 141.74(c)(2) requires the residual disinfectant concentration of the water entering the distribution system to be monitored continuously. Systems serving less than 3,300 persons may take grab samples in lieu of providing continuous monitoring on an ongoing basis. For Systems with a population less than or equal to 500, the frequency shall be 1 sample per day.
- Respondent failed to monitor for residual disinfectant concentration during November 2004, January 2006, April – June 2006, and September 2006, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.74(c)(2).

# VIII

- 40 C.F.R. § 141.75(b)(3)(ii) requires Systems that have a turbidity measurement in excess of 5 NTU to consult with the primacy agency as soon as practical, but no later than 24 hours after exceedance is known.
- On April 16, 2006, the System exceeded the turbidity limit with a turbidity measurement of 8 NTUs. The Respondent failed to report the turbidity exceedance to the State, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.75(b)(3)(ii).

## IX

- 40 C.F.R. § 141.152 requires owners and operators of community water systems to prepare and deliver an annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to its customers by July 1, containing data collected during the previous calendar year.
- 2. Respondent failed to prepare and deliver to its customers a CCR by July 1 of the following year for calendar year 2004, 2005, and 2006 in violation of 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.152-155.

- 1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.201 requires owners and/or operators of public water systems to notify the public of any violations of the NPDWRs, including violations of the MCL, maximum residual disinfection level (MRDL), treatment technique (TT), monitoring requirements, and testing procedures in 40 C.F.R. part 141.
- Respondent has not provided public notice of the violations outlined in Sections I through VII and IX (except the August 2006 exceedance of filter effluent turbidity maximum limit of 1 NTU; the August 2006 failure to achieve ≤ 0.3 NTU in 95% of samples; and the January, April, May and June 2006 failures to monitor for residual disinfection concentration), in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.201.

# XI

- 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2) requires public water systems that have failed to comply with a coliform monitoring requirement under 40 C.F.R. § 141.21 to report the violation to the State within ten days after the system discovers the violation.
- Respondent failed to report to the State the noncompliance detailed in Section III, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2).

# XII

- 1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b) requires public water systems to report any failure to comply with any NPDWRs to the State within 48 hours.
- 2. Respondent failed to report to the State the noncompliance detailed in Sections I and II, IV through VII, and IX and X, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b).

# ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings, and pursuant to section 1414(g) of the Act, IT IS ORDERED:

1. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with 40 C.F.R § 141.551(b) by ensuring that the turbidity levels

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> of representative samples of the System's combined filter effluent at no time exceed 1 NTU when using conventional or direct filtration.

- Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with 40 C.F.R § 141.551(a) by ensuring that the turbidity levels of representative samples of the System's combined filter effluent must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in at least 95 percent of the monthly samples.
- 3. If the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile turbidity value of the monitoring results collected and recorded in any monitoring period, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.74, exceed 0.3 NTU while this Order is in effect, Respondent shall, within 90 days of the violation, submit to EPA detailed plans for bringing Respondent's public water system into compliance with effluent turbidity limits as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 141.551(a). The plans shall be submitted to EPA and the State for approval and shall include 1) proposed system modifications, 2) estimated costs of modifications, 3) and a schedule for construction of the project as well as specific milestone dates. The final completion date shall be no later than 18 months after the violation. The plans must be approved by EPA and the State before construction can commence.
- The schedule for construction and completion referenced in paragraph 3 above will be incorporated into this Order upon written approval by EPA and the State.
- 5. If plans are required as in item 3 above, Respondent shall submit to EPA and the State quarterly reports on the progress made toward bringing Respondent's system into compliance with effluent turbidity limits as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 141.551. Respondent shall submit its first quarterly report during the first calendar quarter after the plan is approved and quarterly thereafter until notified by EPA that it may discontinue quarterly reports.
- 6. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R § 141.21(a) to perform monthly bacteriological monitoring to determine compliance with the MCL for total coliform as stated in 40 C.F.R § 141.63(a)(2). Respondent shall report analytical results to EPA and the State

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within the first 10 days following the end of the monitoring period, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).

- 7. Between June 1 and September 30, 2008, Respondent shall monitor the System's water for lead and copper by taking 5 samples. Thereafter, Respondent shall monitor for lead and copper as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.86. Respondent shall report results and other information to EPA and the State within the first 10 days following the end of each applicable monitoring period, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.90(a).
- If the results of the 90th percentile lead level exceed .015 mg/L or the 90th percentile copper level exceeds 1.3 mg/L, based on any future lead and copper samples collected, Respondent shall comply with all the requirements for optimal corrosion control treatment as specified in 40 C.F.R. § 141.81(e).
- 9. If the results of the 90th percentile lead level exceed .015 mg/L or the 90th percentile copper level exceeds 1.3 mg/L, based on any future lead and copper samples collected, the Respondent shall comply with all the requirements for water quality parameter (WQP) monitoring and reporting as specified in 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.87, 141.89, and 141.90 and for source water monitoring and reporting as specified in 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.87, 141.89, and 141.90 and for source water monitoring in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.90(a)(1)(vi) and (vii) and source water monitoring in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.90(b).
- Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall monitor the water for turbidity as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.74(c)(1). Respondent shall report monitoring results to EPA and the State within the first 10 days following the end of the monitoring period, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.75.
- 11. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 141.74(c)(2) to monitor the residual disinfectant concentration of the water entering the distribution system continuously or at least once per day. Respondent shall report the results to EPA and the State within 10 days after the end of each month, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.75(b)(2).

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- 12. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 141.75(b)(3)(ii), which requires the System to consult with EPA and the State as soon as practical, but no later than 24 hours after becoming aware of a turbidity measurement in excess of 5 NTU.
- 13. Within 30 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall prepare its annual CCR for the years 2004, 2005, and 2006 and distribute them to its customers, in compliance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.152-155. The CCRs must identify all violations incurred for the reporting year, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.152. Respondent shall submit a copy of the CCRs to EPA and the State, including a certification of their distribution, within 10 days of their distribution. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with the CCR requirements set forth in 40 C.F.R §§ 141.152-155.
- Within 30 days from the effective date of this Order, Respondent 14. must provide public notice of the violations specified under the Findings of Violation Sections I through VII and IX of this Order (except the August 2006 exceedance of filter effluent turbidity maximum limit of 1 NTU; the August 2006 failure to achieve ≤ 0.3 NTU in 95% of samples; the January, April, May and June 2006 failures to monitor for residual disinfection concentration; and the April 2006 failure to report to the State filter turbidity non-compliance) to return to compliance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.201, 141.204 and 141.205. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with the public notification requirements at 40 C.F.R. § 141.201, et seq., following any future NPDWR violation. Respondent shall submit a copy of the public notice to EPA and the State within 10 days of completion of the public notice, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(d). This notice shall be given by (1) mail or other direct delivery to each customer receiving a bill and to other service connections to which water is delivered by the System; AND (2) any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons served by the system, if they would not normally be reached by the notice, such as publication in a local newspaper; delivery of multiple copies for distribution by customers that provide their drinking water to others; posting in public places or on the Internet; or delivery to community organizations. The Respondent must repeat the notice annually for as long as the violation, variance, exemption, or other situation persists. If the public notice is

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posted, the notice must remain in place for as long as the violation, variance, exemption, or other situation persists, but in no case less than seven days. Respondent may use the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to provide public notice as long as (1) the CCR is provided to persons served no later than 12 months after the system learns of the violation or situation; (2) the public notice contained in the CCR follows the content requirements under 40 C.F.R. § 141.205; AND (3) the CCR is distributed following the delivery requirements under 40 C.F.R. § 141.204(c). The Respondent must repeat the notice every three months as long as the violation or situation persists.

- 15. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2) by reporting any failure to comply with coliform monitoring requirements under 40 C.F.R. § 141.21 to EPA and the State within ten days after the System discovers the violation.
- 16. Except where a different reporting period is specified in the paragraph above, upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b) by reporting any failure to comply with any NPDWR to EPA and the State within 48 hours.
- 17. Reporting requirements specified in this Order shall be provided by certified mail to:

Kimberly Pardue Welch<br/>U.S. EPA Region 8 (8ENF-W)<br/>1595 Wynkoop Street<br/>Denver, CO 80202-1126ANDKate Miller<br/>MT Department of<br/>Environmental Quality-PWSS<br/>1520 E. Sixth Avenue<br/>P.O. Box 20901

Helena, MT 59620-0901

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 141.1, et seq., or the Act, which remain in full force and effect. Issuance of this Order is not an election by EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action otherwise authorized under the Act.

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- 2. Violation of any term of this Order may subject the Respondent to an administrative civil penalty of up to \$27,500 under section 1414(g)(3)(B) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(3)(B), or a civil penalty of not more than \$32,500 per day of violation assessed by an appropriate U.S. District Court under section 1414(g)(3)(A) and (C) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(3)(A) and (C).
- 3. Violation of any requirement of the Act or its implementing regulations may subject Respondent to a civil penalty of not more than \$32,500 per day of violation assessed by an appropriate U.S. District Court under section 1414(b) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(b).
- 4. The effective date of this Order shall be its date of issuance.

Issued the

day of

, 2008.

David J. Janik, Acting Director Legal Enforcement Program Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

Diane L. Sipe, Director Technical Enforcement Program Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

#### Template on Reverse

Since surface water treatment filtration treatment technique violations are included in Tier 2, you must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but within 30 days after you learn of the violation (141.203(b)). This template may also be adapted for use with turbidity MCL violations.

## For Exceedances of Single Turbidity Limits

You must consult with your primacy agency as soon as practical but within 24 hours of learning of the violation. During the consultation, the agency may choose to elevate your turbidity exceedance to Tier 1. If consultation does not occur, the violation is automatically elevated to Tier 1 (use template 1-5). For a Tier 2 notice, describe your violation as follows in the second paragraph of the notice:

"Normal turbidity levels at our plant are [number] turbidity units. A water sample taken [date] showed levels of [number] turbidity units. This was above the standard of [standard] units. Because of these high levels of turbidity, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease-causing organisms."

### For Exceedances of Monthly Turbidity Limits

Use the following language to describe your violation and insert into the second paragraph of the template:

"Water samples for [month] showed that [percentage] percent of turbidity measurements were over [standard] turbidity units – the standard is that no more than 5 percent of samples may exceed [standard] turbidity units per month. The turbidity levels are relatively low. However, their persistence is a concern. Normal turbidity levels at our plant are [number] units."

Community systems must use one of the following methods (141.203(c)):

- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Non-community systems must use one of the following methods (141.203(c)):

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition, both community and non-community systems must use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method (141.203(c)). Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations. If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if available.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for hand delivery or mail. However, you may wish to modify it before using it for posting. If you do, you must still include all the required elements and leave the health effects language in italics unchanged. This language is mandatory (141.205(d)).

#### **Corrective Action**

In your notice, describe corrective actions you are taking. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with filtration treatment technique violations. Use one or more of the following actions, if appropriate, or develop your own:

- We added chemicals that reduce turbidity.
- We sampled both untreated and treated water for the presence of coliform bacteria.
- We monitored chlorine levels and adjusted them as needed to compensate for the filtration problems.
- We inspected and cleaned the filters.

Make sure to send a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all public notice requirements to your primacy agency within ten days after issuing the notice (141.31(d)).

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Town of Neihart Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Our water system has violated a drinking water standard. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply.

On the following dates, we exceeded a combined filter effluent turbidity maximum limit of 1 NTU:

Month	Day and turbidity units measured	
April 2006	$6^{th} - 3.70$ $7^{th} - 1.8$ $8^{th} - 1.8$ $9^{th} - 1.2$ $10^{th} - 1.8$ $12^{th} - 1.8$ $13^{th} - 1.2$ $14^{th} - 1.2$ $15^{th} - 2.5$	$16^{th} - 8.0$ $17^{th} - 2.3$ $18^{th} - 2.0$ $19^{th} - 2.8$ $22^{nd} - 1.9$ $23^{rd} - 1.3$ $24^{th} - 1.2$ $29^{th} - 2.0$ $30^{th} - 2.0$ $31^{st} - 2.0$
May 2006	$1^{st} - 1.84$ $2^{nd} - 2.0$ $3^{rd} - 1.9$ $4^{th} - 1.2$ $6^{th} - 2.0$ $7^{th} - 2.0$ $11^{th} - 1.6$ $12^{th} - 2.0$	$\begin{array}{l} 15^{th} - 1.26 \\ 16^{th} - 2.0 \\ 17^{th} - 2.0 \\ 18^{th} - 1.6 \\ 19^{th} - 2.0 \\ 20^{th} - 2.0 \\ 21^{st} - 1.86 \end{array}$
June 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 1.08	
September 2006	$1^{st} - 1.42$ $9^{th} - 1.36$ $10^{th} - 1.54$ $11^{th} - 1.54$ $14^{th} - 1.36$ $16^{th} - 1.48$	$17^{th} - 1.48$ $20^{th} - 1.74$ $23^{rd} - 1.50$ $24^{th} - 1.70$ $26^{th} - 1.46$
October 2006	7 <sup>th</sup> - 1.76 8 <sup>th</sup> - 1.50 16 <sup>th</sup> - 1.40	20 <sup>th</sup> - 1.66 31 <sup>st</sup> - 1.20

Additionally, we exceeded a combined filter effluent turbidity limit of 0.3 NTU in at least 95 percent of the monthly measurements during January 2006 (achieved 89.65%), February 2006 (achieved 90.48%), March 2006 (achieved 85.01%), April 2006 (achieved 59.48%), May 2006 (achieved 55.51%), June 2006 (achieved 82.08%), July 2006 (achieved 84.07%), September 2006 (achieved 87.57%), and October 2006 (achieved 84.27%).

#### What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. We do not know of any contamination, and none of our testing has shown disease-causing organisms in the drinking water.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

#### What does this mean?

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

#### What happened? What was done?

A problem occurred with the treatment system at the water plant. [Describe the reason for high turbidity, corrective actions, and when the system returned or expects to return to compliance.]

For more information, please contact [name of contact] \_\_\_\_\_\_at [phone number] \_\_\_\_\_\_or [mailing address]

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by <u>The Town of Neihart</u>. Water System ID#: MT0000298. Date distributed:

# **TIER 3 TEMPLATES**

The pages that follow contain templates for Tier 3 violations and situations. Along with the templates are instructions, including the required method of delivery and instructions for completing individual sections of the notices. These instructions are designed to supplement Chapter 7, so you may see much of the information repeated here.

# Mandatory language on unknown risk for monitoring violations, which must be included exactly as written, is presented in *italics* (141.205(d)).

You must also include the following italicized language in all notices, where applicable (141.205(d)). Use of this language does *not* relieve you of your obligation to take steps reasonably calculated to notify all persons served:

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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#### Templates

Monitoring Violations Annual Notice-Template 3-1