



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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

MAY 27 2015

Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming
Sally Leep, Registered Agent
428 S. Durbin Street, Suite 102
Casper, Wyoming 82609

Re: Administrative Order issued to the Camp Sacajawea, Wyoming, PWS ID # WY5600856,
Docket No. **SDWA-08-2015-0015**

Dear Ms. Leep:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (Order) issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the authority of section 1414(g) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g). Among other things, the Order alleges that the Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming (Respondent), as owner and/or operator of the Camp Sacajawea Public Water System (System), has violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (Drinking Water Regulations) at 40 C.F.R. part 141.

The Order is effective upon the date received. Please review the Order and within 10 days provide the EPA with any pertinent information you believe the EPA may not have (e.g., any monitoring that may have been done but not submitted, any significant deficiencies that have been corrected, etc.). If the EPA does not hear from you, the EPA will assume this information is correct.

If the System complies with the Order, the 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 Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA) may apply to this situation. Enclosed is a small business information sheet, outlining compliance assistance resources available to small businesses and small governments, in case these are relevant. SBREFA does not eliminate the responsibility to comply with the Order or the drinking water regulations.

The Order requires the System to notify the public of having violated the Drinking Water Regulations. Enclosed please find a public notice template explaining the public notice requirements in more detail.

Please be aware that you are required to submit to the EPA a plan and schedule for bringing the System into compliance with the Drinking Water Regulations. The EPA's approval of the System's plan and



schedule does not substitute for any other approval that may be required by any other governmental entity for modifying the System. The EPA encourages the System to contact any such governmental agency or agencies regarding any applicable approval requirements.

To submit information or request an informal conference with the EPA, please contact Olive Hofstader at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-W) or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6467, or (303) 312-6467. Any questions from the System's attorney should be directed to Mia Bearley, Enforcement Attorney, who may be reached at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-L) or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6554, or (303) 312-6554.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Arturo Palomares, Director
Water Technical Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice

Enclosures:

Order
SBREFA Information Sheet
Public Notice Template

cc: Stefanie Harrington, Administrative Contact (via email)
Daniel Helfrick, operator (via email)
WY DEQ/DOH (via email)

Tina Artemis, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk





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MAY 27 2015

Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Natrona County Commissioners
Forrest Chadwick, Chairman
200 North Center
Casper, Wyoming 82601

Re: Notice of Safe Drinking Water Act Enforcement Action against the Camp Sacajawea Public Water System, PWS ID # WY5600856, Docket No. **SDWA-08-2015-0015**

Dear Commissioners:

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) notify locally elected officials of certain enforcement actions taken in their area.

An Administrative Order (Order) is being issued to Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming, owner and operator of the Camp Sacajawea Public Water System (System) located in Natrona County, Wyoming. This Order requires that the System take measures to return the System to compliance with the SDWA and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The violations include: failure to monitor for total coliform, failure to consult with the EPA after receiving written notice of significant deficiencies, failure to correct the significant deficiencies and failure to notify the public and the EPA of the violations.

For more details, a copy of the Order is enclosed. **The Order does not require any response or action by the County Commission.** If you have any questions regarding this Order, please contact Olive Hofstader at (303) 312-6467.

Sincerely,



Arturo Palomares, Director
Water/Technical Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice

Enclosure:
Order



Printed on Recycled Paper

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

2015 MAY 27 AM 11:09

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming,)
)
)
Respondent.)

Docket No. **SDWA-08-2015-0015**

FILED
EPA REGION VIII
HEARING CLERK

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

1. This Order is issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by section 1414(g) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g), as properly delegated to the undersigned officials.
2. Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming (Respondent) is a non-profit corporation formed in Montana that owns and/or operates the Camp Sacajawea Public Water System (System), which provides piped water to the public in Natrona County, Wyoming, for human consumption.
3. The System is supplied by a groundwater source accessed by one well. The System's water is filtered, chlorinated and treated with ultraviolet treatment.
4. The System has approximately 7 service connections and regularly serves an average of approximately 70 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year. Therefore, the System is a "public water system" as defined in section 1401(4) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(4), and 40 C.F.R. § 141.2. The System is also a "transient, non-community water system" as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
5. Respondent is subject to the Act and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (Drinking Water Regulations) at 40 C.F.R. part 141. The Drinking Water Regulations are "applicable requirements" as defined in section 1414(i) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(i).

VIOLATIONS

6. Respondent is required to monitor the System's water quarterly for total coliform bacteria. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(a). Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for total coliform bacteria during the 3rd quarter (July – September) of 2010 and the 2nd quarter (April – June) of 2012, and, therefore, violated this requirement.
7. Respondent is required to consult with EPA within 30 days of receiving written notice of a significant deficiency. 40 C.F.R. § 141.403(a)(4). Respondent failed to consult with the EPA by January 5, 2012, after receiving written notice of significant deficiencies on December 6, 2011, and, therefore, violated this requirement. The EPA received a letter from Respondent concerning significant deficiencies on February 24, 2015.
8. Respondent is required to complete corrective action of a significant deficiency in compliance with an EPA-approved corrective action schedule or within 120 days of receiving written notification from the EPA of the significant deficiency. 40 C.F.R. § 141.404. Respondent is required to notify the EPA within 30 days of completion of a significant deficiency corrective action. 40 C.F.R. § 141.405(a)(2). Respondent failed to complete corrective action of the significant deficiencies by

April 4, 2012, and/or failed to notify the EPA of the completion of the corrective actions by May 4, 2012, and, therefore, violated this requirement.

9. Respondent is required to notify the public of certain violations of the Drinking Water Regulations. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.201 *et seq.* Respondent did not notify the public of the violations cited in paragraphs 6 and 8 above and, therefore, violated this requirement.

10. Respondent is required to report any failure to comply with any coliform monitoring requirement to the EPA within 10 days after discovering the violation. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2). Respondent failed to report the violations cited in paragraph 6, above, to the EPA and, therefore, violated this requirement.

11. Respondent is required to report any failure to comply with any Drinking Water Regulation to the EPA within 48 hours (except where the Drinking Water Regulations specify a different time period). 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b). Respondent failed to report the violations cited in paragraphs 7 and 8 above, to the EPA and, therefore, violated this requirement.

ORDER

Based on the above violations, Respondent is ordered to perform the following actions upon Respondent's receipt of this Order (unless a different deadline is specified below):

12. Respondent shall monitor the System's water for total coliform bacteria during the 2nd (April - June) and 3rd (July - September) quarters every year, and, if any sample is positive for total coliform, conduct repeat and additional routine monitoring, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.21. Respondent shall report analytical results to the EPA within the first 10 days following the month in which Respondent receives sample results, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a). Respondent shall report any violation of coliform monitoring requirements in 40 C.F.R. part 141 to the EPA within 10 days after discovering the violation as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2).

13. Within 10 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall consult with the EPA regarding appropriate corrective actions for addressing the significant deficiencies identified in paragraph 14. Respondent shall consult with EPA within 30 days of receiving written notice of any future significant deficiency. 40 C.F.R. § 141.403(a)(4).

14. Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the EPA a corrective action plan and schedule to address the significant deficiencies in a and b, below. The plan shall include proposed modifications to the System and estimated costs of such modifications. The schedule shall include a project start date, interim milestone deadlines, and a final compliance deadline (which shall be within six months of the project start date). The Respondent shall not begin construction or modifications to the System before the EPA has approved Respondent's compliance schedule. The EPA's approval of Respondent's schedule does not substitute for any State of Wyoming approvals of plans and specifications that may also be required before any modification may be made to the System. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.403(a)(5).

- a. Water loading station with unprotected cross-connection present. Respondent's letter states the loading station is isolated from the water system by a valve in the closed position. The system needs to either physically disconnect the coin-operated watering station or install a backflow prevention device.
- b. Well improperly constructed. The area between the ground and the culvert around the well pit needs to be modified so that surface water does not run under the culvert and/or the slab of concrete. Respondent's letter states a berm of gravel was installed and the casing is more than 18 inches above ground level.

15. The schedule required by paragraph 14, above, shall be incorporated into this Order as an enforceable requirement upon written approval by the EPA.

16. Within 10 days after completing all tasks included in the schedule required by paragraph 14, above, Respondent shall notify the EPA of the completion of the corrective actions, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.405(a)(2). Respondent shall provide evidence to the EPA, including photographs of the completed corrective actions and the following certification signed by a person of authority in the System that the corrective actions have been completed: "I certify under penalty of perjury that Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming has completed all corrective actions to address the significant deficiencies identified during the August 30, 2011, sanitary survey site visit."

17. Respondent shall complete any future significant deficiency corrective actions in compliance with an approved corrective action schedule or within 120 days of receiving written notification from the EPA of the significant deficiency. 40 C.F.R. § 141.404. Respondent shall notify the EPA within 30 days of completion of significant deficiency corrective actions and provide adequate documentation. 40 C.F.R. § 141.405(a)(2).

18. Within 30 days of receipt of this Order, Respondent shall notify the public of the violations cited in paragraphs 6 and 8 above, as required by 40 C.F.R. part 141, subpart Q. Thereafter, following any future violation of the Drinking Water Regulations, Respondent shall comply with the applicable public notice provisions of 40 C.F.R. part 141, subpart Q. Within 10 days of providing public notice, Respondent shall submit a copy of the notice to the EPA.

19. Respondent shall report any violation of the Drinking Water Regulations to the EPA within 48 hours of the violation occurring or, if another time period for reporting is specified in the Drinking Water Regulations, within that other time period.

20. This Order shall be binding on Respondent, its assigns, and any person (e.g., employee, contractor, or other agent) acting in concert with Respondent.

21. If Respondent (a) leases or sells the System to another person or entity, or (b) contracts with or hires any other person or entity to operate the System, Respondent shall, no later than the date of such lease, sale, or other contract, provide a copy of this Order to the lessee, purchaser, or contractor. No later than 10 days thereafter, Respondent shall notify the EPA in writing of the lease, sale, or other contract,

with such notification to include the name and contact information of the person who has leased, bought, or contracted to operate the System. Respondent shall remain obligated to comply with this Order even if Respondent leases the System to another person or entity or hires another person or entity to operate the System.

22. Respondent shall direct all reporting required by this Order to:

U.S. EPA Region 8 (8P-W-DW)
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129

GENERAL PROVISIONS

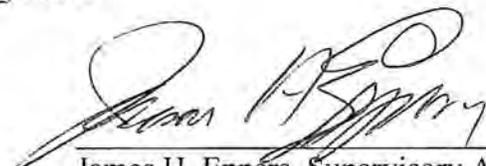
23. This Order shall not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of any requirement of the Act or Drinking Water Regulations. Issuance of this Order is not an election by the EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action.

24. Violation of any part of this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations may subject Respondent to a civil penalty of up to \$37,500 (as adjusted for inflation) per day of violation. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3; 40 C.F.R. part 19.

25. Respondent may seek federal judicial review of this Order pursuant to section 1448(a) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300j-7(a).

26. This Order is effective upon receipt by Respondent and will continue to be in effect until closed by the EPA.

Issued: May 27, 2015.


James H. Eppers, Supervisory Attorney
Legal Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice


Arturo Palomares, Director
Water Technical Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice

Template on Reverse

Since most monitoring violations are included in Tier 3, you must provide public notice to persons served within one year after you learn of the violation [40 CFR 141.204(b)]. Multiple monitoring violations can be serious, and your state may have more stringent requirements. Check with your state to make sure you meet its requirements.

Noncommunity water systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.204(c)]:

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail

In addition, you must use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method [40 CFR 141.204(c)].

You must post the notice until the violation is resolved. If the violation has already been resolved, you must post the notice for at least seven days [40 CFR 141.204(b)]. If you mail, post, or hand deliver, you should print your notice on your system's letterhead, if available.

The template on the reverse is appropriate for use as an annual notice combining notification for several violations, as well as for notices for individual violations. This template presents violations in a table; however, you may write out an explanation for each violation if you wish.

You may need to modify the notice if you had any monitoring violations for which monitoring later showed a maximum contaminant level or other violation. In such cases, you should refer to the public notice you issued at that time. If you do modify the notice, you must still include all required PN elements and leave the mandatory language unchanged (see below).

Mandatory Language

Mandatory language for monitoring and testing procedure violations [40 CFR 141.205(d)] must be included as written (with blanks filled in) and is presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

This template also includes mandatory language encouraging further distribution to persons who may not have received the notice [40 CFR 141.205(d)] and is presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end. However, if you post the notice such that all possible users have access to the notice, this language is not applicable and can be omitted.

Corrective Actions

In your notice describe corrective actions you took or are taking. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with monitoring violations. Choose the appropriate language, or develop your own text:

- We have since taken the required samples, as described in the last column of the table above. The samples showed we are meeting drinking water standards.
- We have since taken the required samples, as described in the last column of the table above. The sample for [contaminant] exceeded the limit. [Describe corrective action; use information from public notice prepared for violating the limit.]
- We plan to take the required samples soon, as described in the last column of the table above.

After Issuing the Notice

Be sure to send your state a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notification requirements within ten days after issuing the notice [40 CFR 141.31(d)].

DRINKING WATER NOTICE
Monitoring Requirements Not Met for
Camp Sacajawea

We violated a drinking water requirement. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2014 we did not complete all monitoring for total coliform and e.coli, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What This Means

There is nothing you need to do at this time. The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for, how often we are supposed to sample (frequency) and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When samples should have been taken	When samples were (or will be) taken
Coliform	2 nd (April-June) and 3 rd quarter (July-September) each year	0	3 rd quarter 2010 and 2 nd quarter 2012	November 18, 2010 and July 9, 2012

Steps We Are Taking

[Describe corrective action.]

For more information, please contact [name of contact] of Camp Sacajawea at [phone number] or [location/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 [system]. State Water System ID#: _WY5600856_ .

Date distributed: _____.

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

[System] Failed to [Correct a Significant Deficiency/Address a Fecal Indicator-Positive Source Sample] Within Required Time Frame

Our water system [give system name] was required to take action to [correct a significant deficiency/address a fecal-indicator positive source sample] by [give date]. However, we failed to take action by the required date.

What This Means

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. We do not know of any cases of contamination. However, until the problem is corrected, there is an increased chance that disease-causing organisms could contaminate the water supply.

Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms, however, 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.

You may drink the water. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

Steps We Are Taking

[Describe corrective action.] We expect to have the [significant deficiency/source of fecal contamination] corrected by [give date].

For more information, please contact [name of contact] of [system] at [phone number] or [location/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 [system]. State Water System ID#: _____.

Date distributed: _____.

Template on Reverse

A system's failure to take corrective action within the required timeframe or be in compliance with a state-approved corrective action plan and schedule for a fecal indicator-positive ground water source sample or significant deficiency under the Ground Water Rule (GWR) is a treatment technique violation and requires Tier 2 notification. You must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but within 30 days after you learn of the violation [40 CFR 141.203(b)]. You must issue a repeat notice every three months for as long as the violation persists. Your state may have more stringent requirements for treatment technique violations. Check with your state to make sure you meet all requirements.

If this notice is for failing to address a fecal indicator-positive source sample, a Tier 1 notice for detecting a fecal indicator in the source water should have already been issued. Consider providing the history of the situation in this notice (i.e., what events lead to requiring corrective action) to avoid confusing the public when this second notice is issued.

Noncommunity systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail

You must also use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method [40 CFR 141.203(c)].

If you modify the notice, you must still include all required PN elements from 40 CFR 141.205(a) and leave the mandatory language unchanged (see below).

Mandatory Language

Mandatory language on health effects (from Appendix B to Subpart Q) must be included as written (with blanks filled in) and is presented in this notice in italics with an asterisk on either end.

This template also includes mandatory language encouraging further distribution to persons who may not have received the notice [40 CFR 141.205(d)] and is presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end. However, if you post the notice such that all possible users have access to the notice, this language is not applicable and can be omitted.

Corrective Action

In your notice, describe corrective actions you are taking. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with Ground Water Rule treatment technique violations. You can use one or more of the following statements, if appropriate, or develop your own text:

- Although we did not meet our deadline, we are now in consultation with the state to develop a corrective action plan.
- The [source of contamination/significant deficiency] has been identified and addressed.
- We have implemented a short term plan to address the immediate issue while we pursue the long-term solution.

After Issuing the Notice

Make sure to send your state a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notification requirements within ten days after issuing the notice [40 CFR 141.31(d)].

It is a good idea to inform your consumers when the violation has been resolved, especially if you have regular customers. See Template NC-7 for a "problem corrected" notice template.



U.S. EPA Small Business Resources Information Sheet

The United States Environmental Protection Agency provides an array of resources to help small businesses understand and comply with federal and state environmental laws. In addition to helping small businesses understand their environmental obligations and improve compliance, these resources will also help such businesses find cost-effective ways to comply through pollution prevention techniques and innovative technologies.

Small Business Programs

www.epa.gov/smallbusiness
EPA's Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP) advocates and fosters opportunities for direct and indirect partnerships, contracts, and sub-agreements for small businesses and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses.

EPA's Asbestos Small Business Ombudsman

www.epa.gov/sbo or 1-800-368-5888
The EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO) serves as a conduit for small businesses to access EPA and facilitates communications between the small business community and the Agency.

EPA's Compliance Assistance Homepage

www2.epa.gov/compliance
This page is a gateway industry and statute-specific environmental resources, from extensive web-based information to hotlines and compliance assistance specialists.

EPA's Compliance Assistance Centers

www.assistancecenters.net
EPA's Compliance Assistance Centers provide information targeted to industries with many small businesses. They were developed in partnership with industry, universities and other federal and state agencies.

Agriculture

www.epa.gov/agriculture/

Automotive Recycling

www.ecarcenter.org

Automotive Service and Repair

ccar-greenlink.org/ or 1-888-GRN-LINK

Chemical Manufacturing

www.chemalliance.org

Construction

www.cicacenter.org or 1-734-995-4911

Education

www.campuserc.org

Food Processing

www.fpeac.org

Healthcare

www.hercenter.org

Local Government

www.lgean.org

Metal Finishing

www.nmfrc.org

Paints and Coatings

www.paintcenter.org

Printing

www.pneac.org

Ports

www.portcompliance.org

Transportation

www.tercenter.org

U.S. Border Compliance and Import/Export Issues

www.bordercenter.org

EPA Hotlines, Helplines and Clearinghouses

www2.epa.gov/home/epa-hotlines

EPA sponsors many free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements. Some examples are:

Clean Air Technology Center (CATC) Info-line

www.epa.gov/ttn/catc or 1-919-541-0800

Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP and Oil Information Center

www.epa.gov/superfund/contacts/infocenter/index.htm or 1-800-424-9346

EPA Imported Vehicles and Engines Public Helpline

www.epa.gov/otaq/imports or 734-214-4100

National Pesticide Information Center

www.npic.orst.edu/ or 1-800-858-7378

National Response Center

Hotline to report oil and hazardous substance spills - www.nrc.uscg.mil or 1-800-424-8802

Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (PPIC) -

www.epa.gov/opptintr/ppic or 1-202-566-0799

Safe Drinking Water Hotline -

www.epa.gov/drink/hotline/index.cfm or 1-800-426-4791

Stratospheric Ozone Protection Hotline

www.epa.gov/ozone/comments.htm or 1-800-296-1996

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Hotline

tsc-hotline@epa.gov or 1-202-554-1404

Small Entity Compliance Guides

<http://www.epa.gov/sbrefa/compliance-guides.html>

EPA publishes a Small Entity Compliance Guide (SECG) for every rule for which the Agency has prepared a final regulatory flexibility analysis, in accordance with Section 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA).

Regional Small Business Liaisons

<http://www.epa.gov/sbo/rsbl.htm>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Small Business Liaison (RSBL) is the primary regional contact and often the expert on small business assistance, advocacy, and outreach. The RSBL is the regional voice for the EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO).

State Resource Locators

www.envcap.org/statetools

The Locators provide state-specific contacts, regulations and resources covering the major environmental laws.

State Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs)

www.epa.gov/sbo/507program.htm

State SBEAPs help small businesses and assistance providers understand environmental requirements and sustainable business practices through workshops, trainings and site visits.

EPA's Tribal Portal

www.epa.gov/tribalportal/

The Portal provides access to information on environmental issues, laws, and resources related to federally recognized tribes.

EPA Compliance Incentives

EPA provides incentives for environmental compliance. By participating in compliance assistance programs or voluntarily disclosing and promptly correcting violations before an enforcement action has been initiated, businesses may be eligible for penalty waivers or reductions. EPA has two such policies that may apply to small businesses:

EPA's Small Business Compliance Policy

www2.epa.gov/enforcement/small-businesses-and-enforcement

This Policy offers small businesses special incentives to come into compliance voluntarily.

EPA's Audit Policy

www2.epa.gov/compliance/epas-audit-policy

The Policy provides incentives to all businesses that voluntarily discover, promptly disclose and expeditiously correct their noncompliance.

Commenting on Federal Enforcement Actions and Compliance Activities

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) established a SBREFA Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. If you believe that you fall within the Small Business Administration's definition of a small business (based on your North American Industry Classification System designation, number of employees or annual receipts, as defined at 13 C.F.R. 121.201; in most cases, this means a business with 500 or fewer employees), and wish to comment on federal enforcement and compliance activities, call the SBREFA Ombudsman's toll-free number at 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

Every small business that is the subject of an enforcement or compliance action is entitled to comment on the Agency's actions without fear of retaliation. EPA employees are prohibited from using enforcement or any other means of retaliation against any member of the regulated community in response to comments made under SBREFA.

Your Duty to Comply

If you receive compliance assistance or submit a comment to the SBREFA Ombudsman or Regional Fairness Boards, you still have the duty to comply with the law, including providing timely responses to EPA information requests, administrative or civil complaints, other enforcement actions or communications. The assistance information and comment processes do not give you any new rights or defenses in any enforcement action. These processes also do not affect EPA's obligation to protect public health or the environment under any of the environmental statutes it enforces, including the right to take emergency remedial or emergency response actions when appropriate. Those decisions will be based on the facts in each situation. The SBREFA Ombudsman and Fairness Boards do not participate in resolving EPA's enforcement actions. Also, remember that to preserve your rights, you need to comply with all rules governing the enforcement process.

EPA is disseminating this information to you without making a determination that your business or organization is a small business as defined by Section 222 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act or related provisions.