

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

FILED

Jun 11, 2026

8:58 am

**U.S. EPA REGION 8
HEARING CLERK**

IN THE MATTER OF:

South End Water Users

Service and Improvement District

Respondent.

South End Water Users S&I District

PWS ID #WY5600970

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Docket No. SDWA-08-2026-0041

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 official.
2. South End Water Users Service and Improvement District is a public body created by or pursuant to Wyoming state law that owns and operates the South End Water Users S&I District Public Water System (System), which provides piped water to the public in Big Horn County, Wyoming, for human consumption.
3. The System is supplied by a groundwater source accessed via two consecutive connections to the Town of Cowley. The water is untreated.
4. The System has approximately 50 service connections used by year-round residents and regularly serves an average of approximately 150 year-round residents. Therefore, the System is a “public water system” and a “community water system” as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 141.2 and sections 1401(4) and (15) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300f(4) and (15).
5. Respondent is a “person” as defined in section 1401(12) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(12), and is subject to the Act and 40 C.F.R. part 141 (Part 141). Part 141 is an “applicable requirement” as defined in section 1414(i) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(i).

VIOLATIONS

6. For each calendar year, Respondent is required, no later than July 1st of the following year, to prepare and distribute a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to the EPA and the System's customers. Within three months thereafter, Respondent is required to certify to the EPA that it has distributed the CCR to the System's customers. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.151-141.155. Respondent failed to certify to the EPA by October 1, 2024, that the CCR for calendar year 2023 had been distributed to the System's customers. Additionally, Respondent failed to prepare and distribute an annual CCR by July 1, 2025, for calendar year 2024 to the System's customers and to the EPA and failed to provide a certification to the EPA by October 1, 2025. Therefore, Respondent violated these requirements.
7. Respondent is required to report any failure to comply with Part 141 to the EPA within 48 hours (except where Part 141 specifies a different time period). 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b). Respondent failed to report the violation cited in paragraph 6, above, to the EPA and therefore, violated this requirement.

ORDER

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

8. Respondent is ordered to comply with all provisions of the Act and Part 141, including but not limited to each requirement cited above.
9. Within 30 calendar days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall (1) prepare an annual CCR, to include all information required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.153 and 154, for the System for calendar year 2024 and distribute the CCR to the System's customers and the EPA and (2) certify to the EPA that the CCRs for calendar years 2023 and 2024 have been distributed to the System's customers and that their information is correct and consistent with monitoring data previously provided to the EPA. Thereafter, Respondent shall prepare and distribute annual CCRs by July 1 and provide certifications by October 1 as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.151-141.155.

10. For any future violation of Part 141 for which this Order does not specify a reporting period, Respondent must report the violation to the EPA within 48 hours of the violation occurring, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b). However, if Part 141 specifies a different time period for reporting the particular violation, Respondent must report the violation to the EPA within that different period.
11. If the population or number of connections served by the System falls below 25 individuals or 15 connections, Respondent must notify the EPA in writing within 10 calendar days by submitting a completed basic information form. The form is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/reporting-forms-drinking-water-systems-wyoming-and-tribal-lands-epa-region-8#new>.
12. 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 must, within 10 calendar days, provide a copy of this Order to the lessee, purchaser, or contractor and notify the EPA in writing of the change. In either of these circumstances, Respondent will remain obligated to comply with this Order.
13. Respondent must send all reporting and notifications required by this Order to the EPA at:
Email: R8DWU@epa.gov, and brookins.rachel@epa.gov

GENERAL PROVISIONS

14. This Order is binding on Respondent and any person (*e.g.*, employee, contractor, or other agent) acting in concert with Respondent.
15. This Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of any requirement of the Act or Part 141. Issuance of this Order is not an election by the EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action.
16. Violation of any part of this Order, the Act, or Part 141 may subject Respondent to an administrative civil penalty of up to \$71,545 (as adjusted for inflation) per day of violation, a court injunction ordering compliance, or both. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(3); 40 C.F.R. part 19; 90 Fed. Reg. at 1375 (January 8, 2025).

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

Issued: June 11, 2026.

**COLLEEN
RATHBONE**

 Digitally signed by COLLEEN
RATHBONE
Date: 2026.06.11 06:09:12 -06'00'

Colleen Rathbone, Manager
Water Enforcement Branch
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division