



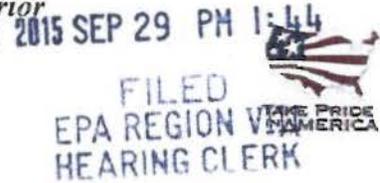
United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Rocky Mountain Regional Office

2021 4th Avenue North

Billings, Montana 59101



IN REPLY REFER TO:

Division Environmental, Cultural and Safety Code 620

SEP 23 2015

Certified Mail-Return Receipt Requested

7010 1670 0000 1345 5428

Sienna Meredith
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 8, Montana Office
Federal Building, 10 West 15th Street, Suite 3200
Helena, MT 59626-0096

Dear Ms. Meredith:

This letter is in regards to the matter of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Crow Agency (TP01) Public Water System, Administrative Order, Docket No. **SDWA-08-2015-0045**

The following includes our response to the Administrative Order referenced above, that was dated September 14, 2015, by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 Montana Office.

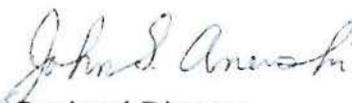
Item 18:

The Crow Agency Facility Manager and two Water Treatment Plant Operators will be attending the Water School in Bozeman, Montana during the week of September 28 through October 1, 2015. They will be taking the cumulative test October 1, 2015. If at that time, the identified three employees do not pass the test, we will contract with a water treatment plant operator with current certifications to operate the system to come in line with compliance of the 60 days requirement.

Item 19:

This finding has been addressed with the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report by public notification and certification as of June 16, 2015. Each CCR notification was mailed to each of our customers and hand-delivered to patrons that were returned by the postal service. Attached are the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report and the signed CCR Certification Form for your review and reference.

Sincerely,


Regional Director

Enclosures

1. CCR Certification Form
2. Annual Drinking Water Quality Report- Crow Agency

cc: Mr. Bruce Ward, Engineer, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Rocky Mountain Region
Ms. Vianna Stewart, Crow Agency Superintendent, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Crow Agency
Ms. Beverly Stiller, Administrative Manager, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Crow Agency
Mr. Leroy Cummins, Facility Manager, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Crow Agency
The Honorable Darrin Old Coyote, Chairman, Crow Tribal Council
Ms. Connie Howe, Environmental Director, Crow Tribal Council
✓ Ms. Tina Artemis, Regional *Hearing* Clerk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8

_____ "Good faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following methods as recommended by the state/primacy agency:

_____ posting the CCR on the Internet at www._____

_____ mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area (attach a list of zip codes used)

_____ advertising availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of announcement)

_____ publication of CCR in local newspaper (attach copy of newspaper announcement)

_____ posting the CCR in public places (attach a list of locations)

_____ delivery of multiple copies to single bill addresses serving several persons such as: apartments, businesses, and large private employers

_____ delivery to community organizations (attach a list)

_____ electronic city newsletter or electronic community newsletter or listserv (attach a copy of the article or notice)

_____ electronic announcement of CCR availability via social media outlets (attach list of social media outlets utilized)

_____ (for systems serving at least 100,000 persons) Posted CCR on a publicly-accessible Internet site at the address: www._____

_____ Delivered CCR to other agencies as required by the state/primacy agency (attach a list)

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Crow Agency

PWSID#083090011

PO Box 69

Crow Agency, MT 59022

We're very pleased to provide you with the annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is surface water from the Little Big Horn River. We have completed a source water protection plan that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination to our drinking water supply. This plan may be obtained by contacting EPA at (406)-457-5009

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

We're pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact **Leroy Cummins at 638-2390** or **Darrell Bright Wings at 638-2874**. If you want to learn more about our water, please attend a Water Board meeting. For the date and time of the monthly meeting, please contact Leroy Cummins.

Crow Agency routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of any detects in our monitoring for the period of **January 1st to December 31st, 2014**. For constituents that are not monitored yearly, we have reviewed our records back the last 5 years.

We have monitored for lead and copper, and all of our samples have been in compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Crow Agency is responsible for providing high quality

drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Parameter	Date	90th % value	Units	Action level	Source of Contamination
Lead	7/26/12	<1	ppb	15	Household plumbing
Copper	7/26/12	0.009	ppm	1.3	Household plumbing

In the table below you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2000 years or a single penny in \$10,000.00.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - (mandatory language) a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level - (mandatory language) The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - (mandatory language) The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)-nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)-Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

TEST RESULTS								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Sample Date	Highest Level Detected	Range	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride	N	10/23/13	0.1	na	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite as N	N	6/5/14	0.09	na	ppm	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	N	10/23/13	1	na	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-products								
Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N	8/28/14	55	13-55	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	N	2/26/14	50	16-50	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Summary of Violations								
Parameter	Violation Y/N	Date	Highest level detected	Lowest monthly % of samples meeting limit	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity	Y	9/18/14 9/23/14	0.263	100% for all months	ntu	Na	TT	Soil Runoff

Our system had one violation. We failed to properly respond to a significant deficiency in our water system. We also lack a certified water operator and must have both storage tanks cleaned and inspected.

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.