



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8

1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
<http://www.epa.gov/region8>

10/13/2022

10:14 AM

Received by
EPA Region VIII
Hearing Clerk

October 12, 2022

Ref: 8ENF-W-SD

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
and via email

Ms. Sherry Foote, Interim Superintendent
Lame Deer Public Schools
P.O. Box 96
Lame Deer, Montana 59043
sherry.foote@lamedeer.K12.mt.us

Re: Emergency Administrative Order under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, issued to Lame Deer Public Schools / regarding Lame Deer High School Public Water System, PWS ID # 083090067, Docket No. SDWA-08-2023-0002

Dear Ms. Foote:

Enclosed is an Emergency Administrative Order (Order) issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to Lame Deer Public Schools, under section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300i.

The EPA has determined that conditions exist at the Lame Deer High School Public Water System (System) that may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the persons served by the System. The EPA has made this determination based on a notification from Energy Lab on October 10, 2022, that the System has *E. coli* contamination, as described in the Order.

Pursuant to the authority set forth in section 1431 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300i, the EPA is authorized to take actions necessary to protect human health. The Order and its requirements are necessary to ensure adequate protection of public health.

The enclosed Order sets forth the actions that must be taken to ensure that the people served by the System are provided with safe drinking water. The Order requires Lame Deer Public Schools to, among other things, take the following actions: issue a boil water advisory and provide an alternate source of water until notified by the EPA to discontinue; submit a plan and schedule for corrective actions; disinfect and flush the System when told by the EPA; and take additional total coliform bacteria samples.

The penalties for failing to comply are set forth in the Order. If you have any questions or wish to discuss the Order, please contact Christina Carballal via email at carballal-broome.christina@epa.gov or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6046, or (303) 312-6046. Any questions from counsel should be directed to Abigail Dean, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel, via email at dean.abigail@epa.gov or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6106, or (303) 312-6106.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures

cc: EPA Regional Hearing Clerk (r8_hearing_clerk@epa.gov)
Greg Wegner, Culligan Water Systems (gregcwegner@yahoo.com)
Lonnie Little Bird, Lame Deer High School (lonnielittlebird@lamedeer.k12.mt.us)
Serena Wetherelt, President of Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation
(Serena.wetherelt@cheyennenatin.com)
Charlene Alden, Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation Environmental Director
(Charlene.alden@cheyennenation.com)
Jason Schneider, Indian Health Service (Jason.schneider@ihs.gov)
Todd Rydquist, Indian Health Service (Todd.rydquist@ihs.gov)