



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8

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Phone 800-227-8917  
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June 17, 2021

5:51 pm

Received by  
EPA Region VIII  
Hearing Clerk

June 16, 2021

Ref: 8ENF-W-SD

**SENT VIA EMAIL**  
**DIGITAL READ RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Tony Rutherford, District Manager  
Northwest Rural Water District  
[tony@nrwdcodywy.com](mailto:tony@nrwdcodywy.com)

Re: Emergency Administrative Order under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act,  
Northwest Rural Water District Public Water System, PWS ID #WY5601254,  
Docket No. SDWA-08-2021-0027

Dear Mr. Rutherford:

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

The EPA has determined that conditions exist at the Northwest Rural Water District 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 the notification that during a scheduled tank inspection, dead mice were found in a finished water storage tank.

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 Northwest Rural Water District Public Water System to, among other things, take the following actions: isolate the tank from the distribution system; disinfect and flush the distribution system; drain, scour and disinfect the tank, and submit a plan and schedule to ensure carcass contaminants do not enter the System in the future. The consequences for failing to comply are set forth in the Order.

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 at (800) 227-8917 extension 6046 or 303-312-6046, or by email at [carballal-broome.christina@epa.gov](mailto:carballal-broome.christina@epa.gov). Any questions from your counsel should be directed to Peggy Livingston, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel, (800) 227-8917, extension 6858, or at (303) 312-6858, or by email at [livinston.peggy@epa.gov](mailto:livinston.peggy@epa.gov).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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

Enclosures

cc: Missy Haniewicz, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk  
WY DEQ/DOH (via email)  
Park County Commissioners ([llivingston@parkcounty.us](mailto:llivingston@parkcounty.us))  
Shane Richardson, Lead Northwest Rural Water ([shane@nrwdcodywy.com](mailto:shane@nrwdcodywy.com))