

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8, MONTANA OFFICE FEDERAL BUILDING, 10 W. 15<sup>th</sup> STREET, SUITE 3200 HELENA, MONTANA 59626

2010 APR 16 AM 8: 52

EPA REGION VIII MEARING CLERK

Ref: 8MO

April 12, 2010

Tracy King, President Fort Belknap Indian Community R.R. 1, Box 66 Harlem, MT 59526

Margaret Nicholson, Director Prairie Mountain Utilities RR 1, Box 91 Fort Belknap Agency, MT 59526

Re: Closure, Emergency
Administrative Order

Docket No. SDWA-08-2008-0074 Prairie Mountain Utilities and Ft. Belknap Indian Community Council PWS ID #083090041 Ft. Belknap Agency

Dear President King and Ms. Nicholson:

I am writing today to close the Ft. Belknap Agency Emergency Order issued to Prairie Mountain Utilities (Utility), and the Ft. Belknap Indian Community Council (Tribes), on July 11, 2008. The EPA has determined that the Utility and Tribes are now in compliance with the requirements of the Emergency Order and therefore we will close it at this time.

Due to uncertainty during start up of your new plant and a recent failure to chlorinate on March 28 2010, EPA's previously issued boil order is still in effect at this time. We know closure of the boil order is very important to the Tribes and are hopeful that a strong compliance record in the next three months will make that possible.

Please be aware that the Utility and Tribes are still required to comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (drinking water regulations), 40 C.F.R. part 141. Violation of the drinking water regulations

may result in a court-imposed injunction and/or penalties of up to \$37,500 per day of violation.

EPA appreciates the many changes the Tribes and Utility have made in the past year to improve compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. If you have questions about any of the information contained in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (406) 457-5025 or Barbara Burkland at (406) 457-5009.

Sincerely,

Julie DalSoglio, Director

EPA Region 8 Montana Office

cc: Catherine Aragon, Attorney, Ft. Belknap Community Council Tina Artemis, Regional Hearing Clerk, EPA