

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8

1595 Wynkoop Street
DENVER, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
http://www.epa.gov/region08

JUN 3 0 2014

Ref: 8ENF-W

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Steven Haviland, Registered Agent Evergreen Properties LLC 31685 N. Sunflower Way San Tan Valley, AZ 85143

Randall Spencer, Certified Operator 3100 Basin St. Cheyenne, WY 82009

Re: Administrative Order issued regarding Evergreen Properties LLC, PWS ID#5600021, Docket No. SDWA-08-2014-0020

Dear Messrs. Haviland and Spencer:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (Order) issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the authority of section 1414(g) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g). Among other things, the Order alleges that Evergreen Properties LLC (Evergreen) and Randall Spencer, as owners and/or operators of the Evergreen Properties LLC public water system (System), have violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 141.

The Order is effective upon the date received. Please review the Order and within 10 days provide the EPA with any information you believe the EPA may not have (e.g., any monitoring that may have been done but not submitted, any updates to the numbers of connections and/or individuals served, etc.). If the EPA does not hear from Evergreen and/or Mr. Spencer, the EPA will assume this information is correct.

If Evergreen and Mr. Spencer comply with the Order, the EPA may close the Order without further action. Failure to comply with the Order may lead to substantial civil penalties and/or a federal court injunction ordering compliance.

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA) may apply to this situation. Enclosed is a small business information sheet, outlining compliance assistance resources available to small businesses and small governments, in case these are relevant. SBREFA does not eliminate the responsibility to comply with the Order or the Drinking Water Regulations.

Public water systems are required to notify the public of certain violations of the Drinking Water Regulations. For the type of violations contained in the Order, public notice is required within one year of the violation. While public notice for the violations contained in the Order is not past due, a public notice template has been enclosed to assist you in completing the public notice requirement. All violations incurred in 2013 must also be included in the system's consumer confidence report that is required to be completed by July 1, 2014.

To submit information or to request an informal conference with the EPA, please contact Kathelene Brainich at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-W), via email at <a href="mailto:brainich.kathelene@epa.gov">brainich.kathelene@epa.gov</a>, or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6481 or (303) 312-6481. Any questions from your attorney should be directed to Mia Bearley, Enforcement Attorney, who may be reached at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-L), via email at <a href="mailto:bearley.mia@epa.gov">bearley.mia@epa.gov</a>, or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6554 or (303) 312-6554.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Arturo Palomares, Director

Water/Technical Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice

Enclosures

Order Public Notice Template

**SBREFA** 

cc: Gale Medlin, Evergreen Properties (via email)

WY DEQ/DOH (via email)

Tina Artemis, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk



#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## REGION 8 1595 WYNKOOP STREET

DENVER, COLORADO 80202-1129 Phone 800-227-8917

http://www.epa.gov/region08

JUN 3 0 2014

Ref: 8ENF-W

# CERTIFIED MAIL LETTER RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Laramie County Commissioners c/o Diane Humphrey, Chair 310 West 19th Street #300 Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

Re: Notice of Safe Drinking Water Act Enforcement Action against Evergreen Properties LLC, PWS ID#5600021, Docket No.

### Dear Commissioners:

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) notify locally elected officials of certain enforcement actions taken in their area.

An Administrative Order (Order) is being issued to Evergreen Properties LLC and Randall Spencer, as owners and/or operators of the Evergreen Properties LLC Water System, located in Laramie County, Wyoming, directing them to comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The violations alleged in the Order are for failing to monitor for radionuclides and nitrate and failing to report the violations to the EPA.

For more details, a copy of the Order is enclosed for your information. The Order does not require any response or action by the County Commission. If you have any questions regarding this Order, please contact Kathelene Brainich at (303) 312-6481.

Sincerely,

Arturo Palomares, Director

Water Technical Enforcement Program

Office of Enforcement, Compliance

and Environmental Justice

Enclosure

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8 2011

2014 JUN 30 AM 8: 18

IN THE MATTER OF:		
	ĵ	Docket No. SDWA-08-2014-0020
Evergreen Properties LLC and	)	WEARWOOT FRE
Randall Spencer,	)	
	)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
Degnandanta	1	

- 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 officials.
- Evergreen Properties LLC is a Wyoming corporation and Randall Spencer is an
  individual (Respondents). Respondents own and/or operate the Evergreen Properties LLC Public
  Water System (System), which provides piped water to the public in Laramie County, Wyoming,
  for human consumption.
- The System is supplied by a groundwater source consisting of one well. The System's water is treated by disinfection.
- 4. The System has approximately 25 service connections used by year-round residents and/or regularly serves an average of approximately 60 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 section 1401 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f.
- 5. Respondents are subject to the Act and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (Drinking Water Regulations) at 40 C.F.R. part 141. The Drinking Water Regulations are "applicable requirements" as defined in section 1414(i) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(i).

# **VIOLATIONS**

- 6. Respondents are required to monitor the System's water for certain radionuclides once every three years. 40 C.F.R. § 141.26(a). Respondents monitored for radionuclides in September 2010 but failed to monitor the System's water for radionuclides during 2013, and, therefore, violated this requirement.
- 7. If any sample of the System's water has a nitrate concentration of at least five milligrams per liter (mg/l), Respondents are required to monitor quarterly for nitrate. 40 C.F.R. § 141.23(d)(2). Although nitrate in the System's water was analyzed at 6.6 mg/l from a sample taken August 16, 2012, Respondents failed to monitor the System's water for nitrate during the 2<sup>nd</sup> (April-June) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (July-September) quarters of 2013 and the 1<sup>st</sup> (January-March) quarter of 2014 and, therefore, violated this requirement.

Evergreen Properties LLC and Randall Spencer Page 2 of 3

8. Respondents are required to report any failure to comply with any Drinking Water Regulation to the EPA within 48 hours (except where the Drinking Water Regulations specify a different time period). 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b). Respondents failed to report the violations cited in paragraphs 6 and 7, above, to the EPA and, therefore, violated this requirement.

# **ORDER**

Based on the above violations, Respondents are ordered to perform the following actions upon Respondents' receipt of this Order (unless a different deadline is specified below):

- 9. Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and as required by the Drinking Water Regulations thereafter, Respondents shall monitor the System's water for radionuclides. 40 C.F.R. § 141.26(a).
- 10. Respondents shall monitor the System's water for nitrate within 30 days after the date of this Order and quarterly thereafter until notified by the EPA in writing of a different monitoring schedule. 40 C.F.R. § 141.23(d).
- 11. Respondents shall report any analytical results to the EPA within the first 10 days following the month in which sample results are received as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).
- 12. Respondents shall report any violation of the Drinking Water Regulations to the EPA within 48 hours of the violation occurring, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b). However, if a different time period for reporting is specified in this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations, Respondents shall report within that different period.
- 13. If the number of individuals served by the System falls below an average of 25 daily at least 60 days of the year, or if the number of connections served by the System falls to below 15, Respondents shall notify the EPA in writing within 10 days.
- 14. This Order shall be binding on Respondents, their successors and assigns and any person (e.g., employee, contractor, or other agent) acting in concert with Respondents.
- 15. If Respondents (a) lease or sell the System to another person or entity, or (b) contract with or hire any other person or entity to operate the System, Respondents shall, no later than the date of such lease, sale, or other contract, provide a copy of this Order to the lessee, purchaser, or contractor. No later than 10 days thereafter, Respondents shall notify the EPA in writing of the lease, sale, or other contract, with such notification to include the name and contact information of the person who has leased, bought, or contracted to operate the System. Respondents shall remain obligated to comply with this Order even if Respondents lease the System to another person or entity or hires another person or entity to operate the System.

Evergreen Properties LLC and Randall Spencer Page 3 of 3

Respondents shall direct all reporting required by this Order to: 16.

> U.S. EPA Region 8 (8P-W-DW) 1595 Wynkoop Street Denver, CO 80202-1129

# GENERAL PROVISIONS

- This Order shall not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of any requirement 17. of the Act or Drinking Water Regulations. Issuance of this Order is not an election by the EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action.
- Violation of any part of this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations may subject 18. Respondents to a civil penalty of up to \$37,500 (as adjusted for inflation) per day of violation. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3; 40 C.F.R. part 19.
- 19. Respondents may seek federal judicial review of this Order pursuant to section 1448(a) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300j-7(a).
- 20. This Order is effective upon receipt by Respondents and will continue to be in effect until closed by the EPA.

James H. Eppers, Supervisory Attorney

Legal Enforcement Program

Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

Acturo Palomares, Director

Water Technical Enforcement Program

Office of Enforcement, Compliance

and Environmental Justice

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER EVERGREEN PROPERTIES MHP

# DRINKING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS NOT MET

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2013 and 2014 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for radionuclides and nitrate and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminants we did not properly test for, how often we are supposed to sample for these contaminants and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date when the situation was corrected.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
Radionuclides	Every 3 years	0	2011-2013	2014
Nitrate	4 quarterly samples	1	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarters 2013 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2014	October 2013 and during 2014

**What happened? What is being done?** All required sampling will be timely completed and reported in the future. Call Randy Spencer at 307-630-6537 if you have questions.

Note: send copy to El	PA after public notice is complete with the date/s completed and signature.
Date completed	Signature of owner/operator for certification

# Instructions for Monitoring Violations Annual Notice--Template 3-1

#### Template on Reverse

Since most monitoring violations are included in Tier 3, you must provide public notice to persons served within one year after you learn of the violation (141.204(b)). Multiple monitoring violations can be serious, and your primacy agency may have more stringent requirements. Check with your primacy agency to make sure you meet its requirements.

Community systems must use one of the following (141.204(c)):

- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Non-community systems must use one of the following (141.204(c)):

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition, both community and non-community systems must use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method (141.204(c)). Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations. If you post the notice, it must remain posted until the violation is resolved. If the violation has been resolved, you must post the notice for at least one week (141.204(b)). If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if available.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for insertion in an annual notice or the CCR, as long as public notification timing and delivery requirements are met (141.204(d)). You may need to modify the template for a notice for individual monitoring violations. This example presents violations in a table; however, you may write out an explanation for each violation if you wish. For any monitoring violation for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) or other groups, you may list the group name in the table, but you must provide the name of every chemical in the group on the notice, e.g., in a footnote.

You may need to modify the notice if you had any monitoring violations for which monitoring later showed a maximum contaminant level or other violation. In such cases, you should refer to the public notice you issued at that time.

Include in your notice the standard language for monitoring and testing procedure violations in *italics* (141.205(d)(2)). If you modify the notice, you may not alter this mandatory language.

#### **Corrective Actions**

In your notice, describe corrective actions you took or are taking. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with monitoring violations. Choose the appropriate language, or develop your own:

- We have since taken the required samples, as described in the last column of the table above. The samples showed we are meeting drinking water standards.
- We have since taken the required samples, as described in the last column of the table above. The sample for [contaminant] exceeded the limit. [Describe corrective action; use information from public notice prepared for violating the limit.]
- We plan to take the required samples soon, as described in the last column of the table above.

#### After Issuing the Notice

Make sure to send the EPA a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notice requirements within ten days after issuing the notice (141.31(d)).



# U.S. EPA Small Business Resources Information Sheet

The United States Environmental Protection Agency provides an array of resources, including workshops, training sessions, hotlines, websites and guides, to help small businesses understand and comply with federal and state environmental laws. In addition to helping small businesses understand their environmental obligations and improve compliance, these resources will also help such businesses find cost-effective ways to comply through pollution prevention techniques and innovative technologies.

# **EPA's Small Business Websites**

Small Business Environmental Homepage - www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org Small Business Gateway - www.epa.gov/smallbusiness

EPA's Small Business Ombudsman - www.epa.gov/sbo or 1-800-368-5888

# **EPA's Compliance Assistance Homepage**

www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance/business.html

This page is a gateway to industry and statute-specific environmental resources, from extensive web-based information to hotlines and compliance assistance specialists.

# **EPA's Compliance Assistance Centers**

www.assistancecenters.net

EPA's Compliance Assistance Centers provide information targeted to industries with many small businesses. They were developed in partnership with industry, universities and other federal and state agencies.

#### Agriculture

www.epa.gov/agriculture/

# **Automotive Recycling**

www.ecarcenter.org

# Automotive Service and Repair

www.ccar-greenlink.org or 1-888-GRN-LINK

## **Chemical Manufacturing**

www.chemalliance.org

# Construction

www.cicacenter.org or 1-734-995-4911

#### Education

www.campuserc.org

## **Food Processing**

www.fpeac.org

#### Healthcare

www.hercenter.org

#### **Local Government**

www.lgean.org

# Metal Finishing

www.nmfrc.org

#### **Paints and Coatings**

www paintcenter.org

# **Printed Wiring Board Manufacturing**

www.pwbrc.org

# **Printing**

www.pneac.org

#### Ports

www.portcompliance.org

# U.S. Border Compliance and Import/Export Issues

www.bordercenter.org

# Hotlines, Helplines and Clearinghouses

www.epa.gov/epahome/hotline.htm

EPA sponsors many free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements. Some examples are:

## **Antimicrobial Information Hotline**

info-antimicrobial@epa.gov or 1-703-308-6411

# Clean Air Technology Center (CATC) Info-line

www.epa.gov/ttn/catc or 1-919-541-0800

# Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act

www.epa.gov/superfund/resources/infocenter/epcra.htm or 1-800-424-9346

# **EPA Imported Vehicles and Engines Public Helpline**

www.epa.gov/otaq/imports or 734-214-4100

# National Pesticide Information Center

www.npic.orst.edu/ or 1-800-858-7378

# National Response Center Hotline -

to report oil and hazardous substance spills www.nrc.uscg.mil or 1-800-424-8802

# Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (PPIC)

www.epa.gov/opptintr/ppic or 1-202-566-0799

### Safe Drinking Water Hotline

www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/index. html or 1-800-426-4791

# **Stratospheric Ozone Protection Hotline**

www.epa.gov/ozone or 1-800-296-1996

# U. S. EPA Small Business Resources

# Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Hotline

tsca-hotline@epa.gov or 1-202-554-1404

## **Wetlands Information Helpline**

www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/wetline.html or 1-800-832-7828

#### State and Tribal Web-Based Resources

### **State Resource Locators**

www.envcap.org/statetools

The Locators provide state-specific contacts, regulations and resources covering the major environmental laws.

# State Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs)

www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org

State SBEAPs help small businesses and assistance providers understand environmental requirements and sustainable business practices through workshops, trainings and site visits. The website is a central point for sharing resources between EPA and states.

# **EPA's Tribal Compliance Assistance Center**

www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance/index.html

The Center provides material to Tribes on environmental stewardship and regulations that might apply to tribal government operations.

### **EPA's Tribal Portal**

www.epa.gov/tribalportal/

The Portal helps users locate tribal-related information within EPA and other federal agencies.

### **EPA Compliance Incentives**

EPA provides incentives for environmental compliance. By participating in compliance assistance programs or voluntarily disclosing and promptly correcting violations before an enforcement action has been initiated, businesses may be eligible for penalty waivers or reductions. EPA has two such policies that may apply to small businesses:

### **EPA's Small Business Compliance Policy**

www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/smallbusiness/index.html

This Policy offers small businesses special incentives to come into compliance voluntarily.

#### **EPA's Audit Policy**

www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/auditing/auditpolicy.html

The Policy provides incentives to all businesses that voluntarily discover, promptly disclose and expeditiously correct their noncompliance.

# **Commenting on Federal Enforcement Actions and Compliance Activities**

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) established a SBREFA Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. If you believe that you fall within the Small Business Administration's definition of a small business (based on your North American Industry Classification System designation, number of employees or annual receipts, as defined at 13 C.F.R. 121.201; in most cases, this means a business with 500 or fewer employees), and wish to comment on federal enforcement and compliance activities, call the SBREFA Ombudsman's toll-free number at 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247), or go to their website at www. sba.gov/ombudsman.

Every small business that is the subject of an enforcement or compliance action is entitled to comment on the Agency's actions without fear of retaliation. EPA employees are prohibited from using enforcement or any other means of retaliation against any member of the regulated community in response to comments made under SBREFA.

# **Your Duty to Comply**

If you receive compliance assistance or submit a comment to the SBREFA Ombudsman or Regional Fairness Boards, you still have the duty to comply with the law, including providing timely responses to EPA information requests, administrative or civil complaints, other enforcement actions or communications. The assistance information and comment processes do not give you any new rights or defenses in any enforcement action. These processes also do not affect EPA's obligation to protect public health or the environment under any of the environmental statutes it enforces, including the right to take emergency remedial or emergency response actions when appropriate. Those decisions will be based on the facts in each situation. The SBREFA Ombudsman and Fairness Boards do not participate in resolving EPA's enforcement actions. Also, remember that to preserve your rights, you need to comply with all rules governing the enforcement process.

EPA is disseminating this information to you without making a determination that your business or organization is a small business as defined by Section 222 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act or related provisions.