

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8

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

SEP 0 4 2013

Ref: 8ENF-W

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

Nathan L. Breinholt, Registered Agent Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc. 3463 Cottage Pines Cove Cottonwood, UT 84121

Re: Administrative Order
Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company
Public Water System
Docket No. SDWA-08-2013-0042
PWS ID # UTAH18139

Dear Mr. Breinholt:

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 Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc. (BCPT), as owner and/or operator of the Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company public water system (System), has violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 141 (Drinking Water Regulations).

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 BCPT, the EPA will assume this information is correct.

If BCPT complies 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 Order requires BCPT to notify the public of having violated the Drinking Water Regulations. Enclosed please find a public notice template explaining the public notice requirements in more detail.

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) or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 4481or (303) 312-6481. Any questions from BCPT's attorney should be directed to Mia Bearley,

Enforcement Attorney, who may be reached at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-L) or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6554 or (303) 312-6554.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely

Anturo Palomares, Director

Water Technical Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance

and Environmental Justice

Enclosures

Order

Public Notice Templates

cc: Daniel McCarthy, Vice President, Big Cottonwood Pine Tree (danielmccarthy@xmission.com)

Patti Fauver, UT DEQ Drinking Water Rule Section Manager

Tina Artemis, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8 2013 SEP - 4 AM 10: 23

IN THE MATTER OF:)	FILED
D' C)	Docket No. SDWA-08-2013-0072
Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc.,)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
Respondent.		ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

- 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 (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g), as properly delegated to the undersigned officials.
- 2. Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc., (Respondent) is a Utah corporation that owns and/or operates the Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company Water System (the System), which provides piped water to the public in Salt Lake County, Utah, for human consumption.
- 3. The System is supplied by a groundwater source consisting of two wells. The System's water is untreated. The system operates seasonally June through September.
- 4. The System regularly serves an average of approximately 63 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year. Therefore, the System is a "public water system" as defined in section 1401(4) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(4), and 40 C.F.R. § 141.2. The System is also a "transient, non-community water system" as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
- 5. Respondent is subject to the Act and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (Drinking Water Regulations) at 40 C.F.R. part 141 and to Title R309 of the Utah Administrative Code (UAC). The Drinking Water Regulations and UAC Title R309 are "applicable requirements" as defined in section 1414(i) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(i).
- 6. The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has primary enforcement authority for the public water system supervision provisions of the Act in the State of Utah (State). The EPA issued a notice of the System's violations to the State on July 8, 2013. The State elected not to commence an enforcement action against Respondent within the 30-day time frame set forth in section 1414(a) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(a). The EPA has provided a copy of this Order to the State and has provided the State the opportunity to confer with the EPA regarding this Order.

VIOLATIONS

7. Respondent is required to complete corrective action of a significant deficiency in compliance with an approved corrective action schedule or within 120 days of receiving written notification from the State of the significant deficiency. 40 C.F.R. § 141.404. Respondent is required to notify the State within 30 days of completion of a significant deficiency corrective action. 40 C.F.R. § 141.405(a)(2). The System received a letter from the State dated May 31, 2011, that detailed significant deficiencies regarding inadequate storage capacity and the lack of

Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc. Page 2 of 6

a storage facility vent screen. Respondent failed to complete corrective action of the significant deficiencies by September 28, 2011, and/or failed to notify the State of the completion of the corrective actions by October 28, 2011, and, therefore, violated this requirement. Respondent completed corrective actions on July 19, 2013.

- 8. If two or more samples collected in any month from the System's water are positive for total coliform, then the System has violated the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total coliform bacteria. 40 C.F.R. § 141.63(a)(2). During the month of July 2012 two or more samples from the System were positive for total coliform, and, therefore, Respondent violated this requirement.
- 9. If the System has one or more sampling results that are positive for total coliform, Respondent is required to collect at least five routine samples during the next month the System provides water to the public. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(b)(5). After the System's water tested positive for total coliform in June and July 2012, Respondent failed to take at least five routine samples of the System's water in July and August 2012, respectively, and, therefore, violated this requirement. Four samples were taken in July 2012 and none were taken in August 2012.
- 10. Respondent is required to monitor the System's water quarterly for total coliform bacteria. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(a). Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for total coliform bacteria during 2nd (April-June) quarter 2011 and, therefore, violated this requirement.
- 11. Respondent is required to conduct triggered source water monitoring within 24 hours of being notified that a regular, routine total coliform monitoring sample is positive for total coliform. For triggered source water monitoring, Respondent must sample each ground water source and have it analyzed for a fecal indicator (i.e. *E. coli*). 40 C.F.R. § 141.402. Respondent was notified in June and July 2012 that a routine sample was positive for total coliform. Respondent failed to collect any ground water source samples within 24 hours and, therefore, violated this requirement. 40 C.F.R. § 141.402.
- Respondent is required to monitor the System's water annually for nitrate. 40 C.F.R.
 § 141.23(d). Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for nitrate during 2009 and 2011 and, therefore, violated this requirement.
- 13. Respondent is required to monitor the System's water at least once every nine years for sulfate. UAC R309-205-5(3). Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for sulfate during 2002-2010, and, therefore, violated this requirement.
- 14. Respondent is required to notify the public of certain violations of the Drinking Water Regulations. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.201-141.211. Respondent failed to notify or inadequately notified the public of the violations cited in paragraphs 7 through 13, above, and, therefore, violated this requirement.

Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc. Page 3 of 6

- 15. Respondent is required to report any coliform MCL violation to the State no later than the end of the next business day after learning of it. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(1). Respondent did not notify the State of the MCL violation cited in paragraph 8, above, and, therefore, violated this requirement.
- 16. Respondent is required to report any failure to comply with any coliform monitoring requirement to the State within 10 days after discovering the violation. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2). Respondent failed to report the violations listed in paragraphs 9 and 10, above, to the State and, therefore, violated this requirement.
- 17. Respondent is required to report any failure to comply with any Drinking Water Regulation to the State within 48 hours (except where the Drinking Water Regulations specify a different time period). 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b). Respondent failed to report the violation cited in paragraphs 7, 11, 12, 13, and 14, above, to the State and, therefore, violated this requirement.

ORDER

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

- 18. Respondent shall complete any future significant deficiency corrective actions in compliance with an approved corrective action schedule or within 120 days of receiving written notification from the State of the significant deficiency. 40 C.F.R. § 141.404. Respondent shall notify the State within 30 days of completion of significant deficiency corrective actions. 40 C.F.R. § 141.405(a)(2).
- 19. Respondent shall monitor the System's water quarterly during the 2nd and 3rd quarters for total coliform bacteria and, if any sample is positive for total coliform, conduct repeat and additional routine monitoring, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.21. Respondent shall report analytical results to the EPA and the State within the first 10 days following the month in which Respondent receives sample results, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a). Respondent shall report any violation of coliform monitoring requirements in 40 C.F.R. part 141 to the EPA and the State within 10 days after discovering the violation, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2).
- 20. Within 24 hours after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall collect at least one water sample from each of its ground water sources for fecal indicator analysis (*E. coli*). If the sample is negative, Respondent shall report that result to the EPA and the State no later than 10 days after the end of the month in which the sample is taken. If the sample is positive, Respondent shall notify the State immediately for appropriate assistance in meeting the requirement of 40 C.F.R. § 141.402(g) to provide public notice within 24 hours as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.202. Thereafter, Respondent shall comply with all source water monitoring and related

Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc. Page 4 of 6

requirements in 40 C.F.R. § 141.402. When reporting any triggered source water sample result to the EPA and the State, Respondent shall specify that it is a triggered source water sample.

- 21. If Respondent's total coliform sample results exceed the MCL while this Order is in effect, Respondent shall, within 30 days after learning of this violation, provide the EPA and the State with a compliance plan and schedule for the System to come into compliance with the MCL for total coliform as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63(a). The proposed schedule shall include specific milestone dates and a final compliance date to be within 3 months from the date of the EPA's approval of the schedule. The schedule must be approved by the EPA before construction or modifications can begin. The EPA's approval of Respondent's schedule does not substitute for any State of Utah approval of plans and specifications that may also be required before modifications may be made to the System.
- 22. The schedule required by paragraph 21, above, shall be incorporated into this Order as enforceable requirements upon written approval by the EPA.
- 23. Within 10 days after completing all tasks included in the schedule required by paragraph 22, above, Respondent shall notify the EPA and the State of the project's completion.
- 24. Respondent shall achieve and maintain compliance with the total coliform MCL by the final date specified in the approved plan, or no later than 3 months after receipt of the EPA's approval of the schedule required by paragraph 21 above, whichever is earliest. Respondent shall meet that deadline even if the plan as approved does not achieve compliance. If the plan fails to achieve permanent compliance, the EPA may order further steps and/or seek penalties for noncompliance.
- 25. Respondent shall monitor the System's water annually for nitrate as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.23. Within the first 10 days following the month in which sample results are received, Respondent shall (a) report any analytical results to the State, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a), and (b) provide the EPA with a copy of the results.
- 26. Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall monitor the System's water for sulfate as required by UAC R309-205-5(3). Within the first 10 days following the month in which sample results are received, Respondent shall (a) report any analytical results to the State as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a), and (b) provide the EPA with a copy of the results.
- 27. Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall notify the public of the violations cited in paragraphs 7 through 13, above, following the instructions provided with the public notice template provided to Respondent with this Order. Thereafter, following any future violation of the Drinking Water Regulations, Respondent shall comply with any applicable public notice provisions of 40 C.F.R. part 141, subpart Q. Within 10 days after providing public notice, Respondent shall submit a copy of the notice to the EPA and the State.

Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc. Page 5 of 6

- 28. If the System's water does not comply with the total coliform MCL in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63, Respondent, by the end of the business day after discovering the violation, shall (a) report this violation to State, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(1), and (b) provide the EPA with a copy of this notification.
- 29. If Respondent does not comply with any coliform monitoring requirement in 40 C.F.R. part 141, Respondent, within 10 days after discovering the violation, shall (a) report this violation to State, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2), and (b) provide the EPA with a copy of this notification.
- 30. Respondent shall, within 48 hours of any violation of the Drinking Water Regulations, (a) report that violation to the State, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b), and (b) provide the EPA a copy of this notification. However, if a different time period for reporting is specified in this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations, Respondent shall report to the EPA and the State within that different period.
- 31. If the population or number of connections served by the System falls below 25 individuals or 15 connections, Respondent will notify the EPA and the State in writing within 10 days.
- This Order shall be binding on Respondent, successors and assigns, and any person (e.g., employee, contractor or other agent) acting in concert with Respondent.
- 33. If Respondent (a) leases or sells the System to another person or entity, or (b) contracts with or hires any other person or entity to operate the System, Respondent 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 and, no later than 10 days thereafter, notify the EPA and the State in writing of the lease, sale or other contract with such notification to include the name and contract information of the person who has leased, bought or contracted to operate the System. Respondent shall remain obligated to comply with this Order even if Respondent leases the System to another person or entity or hires another person or entity to operate the System.
- 34. Respondent shall direct all reporting required by this Order in writing to BOTH:

Kathelene Brainich U.S. EPA Region 8 (8ENF-W) 1595 Wynkoop Street Denver, CO 80202-1129 AND

Patti Fauver, Rules Section Manager Utah DEQ Drinking Water P.O. Box 144830 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4830 Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water Company, Inc. Page 6 of 6

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 35. This Order shall not constitute a waiver, suspension or modification of any requirement 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.
- 36. Violation of any part of this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations may subject Respondent 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.
- 37. Respondent 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).
- This Order is effective upon receipt by Respondent and will continue to be in effect until closed by the EPA.

Issued: Sept. 4 , 2013.

Ames H. Eppers, Supervisory Attorney

Regulatory Enforcement Unit

Office of Enforcement, Compliance

and Environmental Justice

Arturo Palomares, Director

Water Technical Enforcement Program

Office of Enforcement, Compliance

and Environmental Justice

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

BIG COTTONWOOD PINE TREE WATER COMPANY

DRINKING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS NOT MET IN 2009 - 2012 and FAILURE TO CORRECT SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

We are required to monitor the 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 2009-2012 we did not timely complete all monitoring or testing for total coliform bacteria contamination, nitrate, sulfate, and source water E. coli and we have not completed corrective action of significant deficiencies by 09/28/11 as required by the State. The deficiencies are: less than 40% of required storage capacity and the West tank's storage facility vent is not property screened.

What This Means

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. We do not know of any cases of contamination. However, until the problems are corrected, there is an increased chance that disease-causing organisms could contaminate the water supply. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches. These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

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
Total coliform bacteria additional routine	5 samples the month after a total coliform positive result	4 in July 0 in Aug	July and August 2012	After future total coliform positive results
Total coliform bacteria quarterly	One sample during each of the 2 nd and 3 rd quarters each year	0	2 nd quarter 2011	All other required quarters
Source water sampling for E. Coli	Within 24 hours of a total coliform positive result	0	June and July 2012	Immediately and after all future total coliform positives
Nitrate	Annual	0	2009 and 2011	2010 and 2012
Sulfate	9 years	0	2002-2010	Will monitor in 2013

What happened? What is being done?	
what happened? what is being done?	

Call Nathan Breinholt at 801-259-0255 if you have questions.

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-combility is sterils must use one of the tallowing (f. 45.204(c)): Posting in conspectous 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 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.

	end your primady as	ency a segy of each type of notice and a c after secure the notice (141,31/c).	errification the two theve metallune public
		um of 7 days, enter the dates posted, sign tn: 8ENF-W K. Brainich, Denver, CO 8020	below and send a copy to UT DEQ and to
Dates posted	from	to	
Signature			

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Tests Show Coliform Bacteria in Big Cottonwood Pine Tree Water

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We took samples for coliform bacteria during the month of July 2012 and more than one sample each month showed the presence of coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 1 sample per month may do so.

What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are
 elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers
 about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes
 are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

Signature

This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified within 24 hours. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.*

Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find any of these bacteria.** If we had, we would have notified you immediately.

Template on Reverse

Since exceeding the total coliform bacteria maximum contaminant level is a Tier 2 violation, you must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but within 30 days after you learn of the violation [40 CFR 141.203(b)]. Persistent total coliform problems can be serious. Some states have more stringent requirements for coliform violations. Check with your primacy agency to make sure you meet all requirements. You must issue a repeat notice every three months for as long as the violation persists.

Community systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:

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

Noncommunity systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition, both community and noncommunity systems must use another method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method [40 CFR 141.203(c)]. Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations. If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on your system's letterhead, if available.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for mailing, posting, or hand delivery. If you modify this notice, you must still include all required PN elements listed in 40 CFR 141.205(a) and leave the mandatory language unchanged (see below).

Mandatory Language

Mandatory language on health effects (from Appendix B to Subpart Q) must be included as written (with blanks filled in) and is presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

You must also include standard language to encourage the distribution of the public notice to all persons served, where applicable [40 CFR 141.205(d)]. This language is also presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

Description of the Violation

The description of the violation and the MCL vary depending on the number of samples you take. The following table should help you complete the second paragraph of the template.

If You Take Less Than 40 Samples a Month

State the number of samples testing positive for coliform. The standard is that no more than one sample per month may be positive.

If You Take at Least 40 Samples a Month

State the percentage of samples testing positive for coliform. The standard is that no more than five percent of samples may test positive each month.

Corrective Action

In your notice, describe corrective actions you are taking. If you know what is causing the coliform problem, explain this in the notice. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with total coliform violations. Depending on the corrective action you are taking, you can use one or more of the following statements, if appropriate, or develop your own text:

- We are disinfecting and flushing the water system.
- We are increasing sampling for coliform bacteria.
- We are investigating the source of contamination.
- We are repairing the wellhead seal.
- We are repairing the storage tank.
- We will inform you when additional samples show no coliform bacteria.

After Issuing the Notice

Make sure to send a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notice requirements to your primacy agency within ten days after issuing the notice [40 CFR 141.31(d)]. It is a good idea to inform your consumers when the violation has been resolved. See Template 2-2 for a resolved notice template.