



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
REGION 8, MONTANA OFFICE  
FEDERAL BUILDING, 10 W. 15<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 3200  
HELENA, MONTANA 59626

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SENT ELECTRONICALLY AND VIA CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Tracy King, President  
Fort Belknap Indian Community Council  
R.R.1, Box 66  
Harlem, Montana 59526

Ms. Margaret Nicholson, Director  
Prairie Mountain Utility  
R.R. 1, Box 91  
Fort Belknap Agency, Montana 59526

Re: Emergency Administrative Order Amendment,  
Docket No. SDWA-08-2013-0036  
Lodgepole Housing Public Water Supply System,  
PWS ID# 083090047

Dear President King and Ms. Nicholson:

The EPA was notified of a water outage in Lodgepole Housing Public Water Supply (System) on September 3, 2013, by Head System Operator Scott Snow. Mr. Snow determined the cause of the outage to be a failed electrical panel which controls operation of the well pump. As a result of this latest problem, it is necessary for the EPA to amend the existing Emergency Administrative Order (EAO) that was issued to the Fort Belknap Indian Community (FBIC) and Prairie Mountain Utility (Utility) for this System on June 12, 2013.

Upon receipt of this Addendum, FBIC and Utility must comply with the following actions set forth in the original EAO, as modified:

**BOIL ORDER AND PUBLIC NOTICE, Paragraph 12.** Within 24 hours of receipt of this Amendment, Respondents must notify the public in the affected area of the situation described in this amendment and distribute a boil water advisory. Please update the boil water advisory issued in June. Respondents must submit a copy of the notice to the EPA within 24 hours of its distribution. Respondents must continue providing the public notice until the EPA provides written notification to discontinue.

**ALTERNATE WATER SUPPLY, Paragraph 13.** Using the public notice required in the paragraph above, Respondents must notify the public that an alternate potable water supply is available. Respondents must provide at least two liters of potable water daily per person at a central location that is accessible to all persons served by the System. Respondents may also opt to provide an alternate water supply that is either 1) provided by a licensed water distributor, 2) purchased bottled water, or 3) provided by another public water system that meets the requirements of the drinking water regulations. Any alternate water supply chosen must be made

available at no cost to all users of the System as needed for drinking and cooking until Respondents receive written notification from the EPA that alternate water is no longer necessary.

#### **DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM DISINFECTION AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

**Paragraph 14.** No later than October 31, 2013, Respondents must inspect, clean, and disinfect the System's water storage tank as otherwise required by the EPA's Significant Deficiency Letter of January 31, 2013 (see attached).

**Paragraph 15.** Once the tank has been flushed and disinfected, Respondents must collect consecutive daily (1 sample per day) special purpose total coliform samples from the distribution system.

**Paragraph 16.** After Respondents collect a sufficient number of consecutive daily total coliform samples that are negative and receive written notification from the EPA to discontinue daily total coliform sampling, Respondents must collect weekly special purpose bacteriological samples (1 sample per week).

**Paragraph 17.** After Respondents collect a sufficient number of weekly total coliform samples that are negative and receive written notification from the EPA to discontinue weekly total coliform sampling, Respondents must resume monthly total coliform sampling. The Respondents must designate at least one sample as the monthly compliance sample to determine compliance with the maximum contaminant level for total coliform. 40 C.F.R. § 141.63.

**Paragraph 18.** If any one of the designated compliance sample results are total coliform-positive, Respondents must conduct repeat sampling as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(b) by collecting a minimum of four repeat samples within 24 hours of being notified of the total coliform-positive sample. Furthermore, Respondents must comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(b)(5) by collecting a total of 5 routine total coliform samples the month following a total coliform-positive compliance sample result.

**Paragraph 19.** If any of the designated routine sample results is total coliform-positive, within 24 hours of being notified of those results Respondents must collect a "triggered" sample from the source to be analyzed for *E. coli*. 40 C.F.R. § 141.402. EPA can provide assistance to determine where the source sample should be collected.


**Paragraph 20.** Respondents must monitor the chlorine residual at the same time and same location as the total coliform samples (as required in paragraphs 4 through 7 above) until Respondents receive notification from the EPA to discontinue chlorine residual monitoring.

**Paragraph 21.** Respondents must collect all total coliform sampling at sites that are representative of water throughout the distribution system. Additionally, Respondents must report all sampling results to the EPA by telephone and by email or fax immediately upon receiving the results.

**Paragraph 22.** The EPA may require Respondents to increase or decrease total coliform sampling or chlorine residual sampling at any time while the Order is in effect.

Your cooperation in complying with the EAO Amendment is appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Julie A. DalSoglio, Director  
EPA Region 8 Montana Office

Enclosures

Emergency Administrative Order  
Significant Deficiency Letter

cc: Tina Artemis, EPA Region 8 Regional Hearing Clerk  
Ina Nez Perce, Fort Belknap Environmental Director (email only)  
Scott Snow, FBIC Head Operator  
Sherry Bishop, FBIC Compliance Officer (email only)  
Catherine Aragon, FBIC Tribal Attorney (email only)