

UNITED STATES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8

2015 AUG 19 AM 9:22

FILED  
EPA REGION VIII  
HEARING CLERK

DOCKET NO.: SDWA-08-2015-0026

IN THE MATTER OF )  
)  
INTERMOUNTAIN RURAL ELECTRIC )  
ASSOCIATION )  
)  
)  
Respondent. )

Proceeding under § 1423  
of the Safe Drinking Water Act,  
42 U.S.C. § 300h-2

**NOTICE AND ORDER FOR INITIAL CONFERENCE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above action under Section 1414(g)(3) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (“SDWA”), 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2, is docketed and the undersigned designated the Presiding Officer to conduct these proceedings. This action is subject to Subpart I of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders, and the Revocation or Suspension of Permits (“Consolidated Rules” or “CROP”), 40 C.F.R. Part 22. The Regional Hearing Clerk previously advised the parties of my designation. Correspondence with, or service upon, the undersigned shall be directed to:

Elyana R. Sutin  
Regional Judicial Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 (8RC)  
1595 Wynkoop Street  
Denver, CO 80202-1129  
Telephone: 303.312.6765  
Fax: 303.312.6859

Counsel for Complainant is directed to confer with Respondent's counsel and confirm a date and time on my calendar to schedule a telephone conference with my legal assistant (the Regional Hearing Clerk), Tina Artemis, **on or before September 1, 2015**. Ms. Artemis can be reached at 303.312.6765.

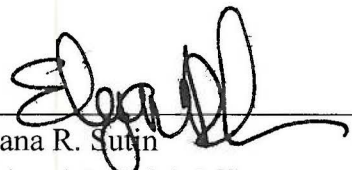
The purpose of the telephone conference is to establish a schedule for proceeding forward in this matter. Unless there are compelling reasons for a face-to-face conference, to minimize the costs in this proceeding, I plan to conduct all such conferences by telephone.

Each party shall advise me, prior to the conference of the telephone number at which they and others on their side participating in the conference call, wish to be contacted. For convenience, Complainant will normally participate on a conference phone located in the office of the Presiding Officer. This is not considered an ex parte issue, since Respondent will be on the call at the same time. The parties shall have their calendars available for the telephone conference to schedule further proceedings in this matter.

Agency policy encourages settlement. 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b). The benefits of a negotiated settlement often outweigh the uncertainty, time and expense associated with litigating the matter. The parties are encouraged to have settlement discussions and any efforts needed to reach settlement in this matter. The parties shall take precautions in any settlement negotiations to insulate and shield the Presiding Officer and the Regional Hearing Clerk from any knowledge regarding the details of the settlement including monetary amounts discussed. This can be best accomplished by being certain that the Presiding Officer does not receive a copy of any communications reflecting settlement amounts.

The Regional Hearing Clerk maintains the administrative record for this proceeding under 40 C.F.R. §22.5 of the Consolidated Rules. Please make sure that the originals and one copy of all documents you wish included in the record are properly filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk. A copy of each document also needs to be provided to the opposing party and the Presiding Officer.

Dated: 8/19/15

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Elyana R. Sutin  
Regional Judicial Officer

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that the original of the attached **NOTICE AND ORDER** in the matter **INTERMOUNTAN RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOC.; DOCKET NO.: SDWA-08-2015-0026** was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk on August 19, 2015.

Further, the undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the document was delivered to Mia Bearley, Enforcement Attorney, U. S. EPA – Region 8, 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, CO 80202-1129. A true and correct copy of the aforementioned document was placed in the United States mail certified/return receipt requested and emailed on August 19, 2015, to:

Amy M. Watson #40583, Attorney  
5496 North U. S. Highway 85  
P. O Drawer A  
Sedalia, CO 80135  
awatson@irea.coop

And e-mailed to:

Honorable Elyana R. Sutin  
Regional Judicial Officer  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 8  
1595 Wynkoop Street  
Denver, CO 80202

August 19, 2015



Tina Artemis  
Paralegal/Regional Hearing Clerk