

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8 1595 Wynkoop Street DENVER, CO 80202-1129 Phone 800-227-8917 http://www.epa.gov/region08

FEB 2 9 2016

Ref: 8ENF-W

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

United States Corporation Company, Registered Agent ConocoPhillips Company 1821 Logan Avenue Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

Re: Administrative Order Regarding Burlington Resources Lost Cabin Gas Plant PWS ID #5601462, Docket # **SDWA-08-2016-0004** 

Dear Registered Agent:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (Order) issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 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 ConocoPhillips Company (Company), as owner and/or operator of the Lost Cabin Gas Plant Public Water System (System) in Fremont County, Wyoming, 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 the Company believes the EPA may not have (for example, monitoring that may have been done but not submitted, updates to the numbers of connections and/or individuals served). If the EPA does not hear from the Company, the EPA will assume the information in the Order is correct.

If the Company 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.

Please be aware that the Company is required to submit to the EPA a plan and schedule for bringing the System into compliance with the Drinking Water Regulations. The EPA encourages the Company to contact any other governmental agency or agencies that may require approval of the plan and/or schedule prior to modifying the System. The Order also requires compliance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule that is effective April 1, 2016, which requires monthly monitoring of total coliform.

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 <u>brainich.kathelene@epa.gov</u>, or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6481 or (303) 312-6481. Any questions from your attorney

should be directed to Peggy Livingston, Enforcement Attorney, who may be reached at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-L), via email at <u>livingston.peggy@epa.gov</u>, or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6858, or (303) 312-6858.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Arturo Palomares, Director Water Technical Enforcement Program Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

Enclosure

cc: Drew Conners, Burlington Resources (via email) WY DEQ/DOH (via email) Tina Artemis, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk





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REGION 8 1595 Wynkoop Street Denver, CO 80202-1129 Phone 800-227-8917 www.epa.gov/region08 FEB 2 9 2016

Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL LETTER RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Fremont County Commissioners c/o Doug Thompson, Chair 450 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street #205 Lander, Wyoming 82520

> Re: Notice of Safe Drinking Water Act Enforcement Action against ConocoPhillips Burlington Resources Lost Cabin Gas Plant, PWS ID# 5601462

Dear Commissioners:

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

An Administrative Order (Order) is being issued to ConocoPhillips, as owner/operator of the Burlington Resources Lost Cabin Gas Plant Public Water System (System), located in Fremont County, directing it to comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The violations alleged in the Order are for failure to comply with the total trihalomethanes maximum contaminant level and failure to monitor for total coliform.

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

2016 FEB 29 AM 8: 31

FILED

EPA REGION VIII

| IN THE MATTER OF:       | ) |                                     |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
|                         | ) | Docket No. <b>SDWA-08-2016-0004</b> |
| ConocoPhillips Company, | ) |                                     |
|                         | ) | ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER                |
| Respondent.             | ) |                                     |

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.

2. ConocoPhillips Company (Respondent) is a Delaware corporation that owns and/or operates the Burlington Resources Lost Cabin Gas Plant Water System (System), which provides piped water to the public in Fremont County, Wyoming, for human consumption.

3. The System is supplied by groundwater source accessed by one well, which is treated by sodium hypochlorite and granular activated carbon filtration.

4. The System has approximately 19 service connections and/or regularly serves an average of approximately 66 of the same individuals daily for at least 6 months 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 "non-transient, noncommunity" 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. 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. The maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes (TTHM) is 0.080 milligrams per liter (mg/L), based on the locational running annual average (LRAA) of four consecutive quarterly TTHM samples at each sampling location. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.64 and 141.620(d). The LRAA of TTHM samples at sampling location S2-Lunch RM was at 0.085 mg/L the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2015 (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2014-1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2015), at 0.1275 the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2015 (3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2014-2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2015), and at 0.084 mg/L the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2015 (4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2014-3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2015) and, therefore, Respondent violated the TTHM MCL.

7. 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 the 3<sup>rd</sup> (July-September) quarter of 2013 and, therefore, violated this requirement. ConocoPhillips Company, Burlington Resources, Lost Cabin Gas Plant Page 2 of 3

# <u>ORDER</u>

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):

8. Within 90 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the EPA a proposed plan and schedule to bring the System into consistent compliance with the TTHM MCL as identified in 40 C.F.R. § 141.64. The plan shall include proposed modifications to the System and estimated costs of such modifications. The schedule shall include a project start date, interim milestone deadlines, and a final compliance deadline (which shall be within one year of the project completion date). The Respondent shall not begin construction or modifications to the System before the EPA has approved Respondent's compliance schedule.

9. The schedule required by paragraph 8, above, shall be incorporated into this Order as an enforceable requirement upon written approval by the EPA.

10. Within 90 days after receipt of the EPA's approval of the schedule required by paragraph 8, above, Respondent shall provide the EPA with quarterly reports on the progress made toward bringing the System into compliance with the TTHM MCL. Each quarterly report is due by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the relevant quarter.

11. Within 10 days after completing all tasks included in the schedule required by paragraph 8, above, Respondent shall notify the EPA of the project's completion.

12. The System shall achieve compliance with the TTHM MCL by the final compliance deadline specified in the EPA-approved schedule. If the Respondent's plan fails to achieve permanent compliance, the EPA may order further steps and/or seek penalties for noncompliance.

13. Beginning April 1, 2016, Respondent shall monitor the System's water monthly for total coliform bacteria and, if any sample is positive for total coliform, conduct repeat monitoring as required by 40 C.F.R. 141.853-858. Respondent shall report analytical results to the EPA 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 within 10 days after discovering the violation, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.861(a)(4).

14. This Order shall be binding on Respondent, its successors and assigns, and any person (e.g., employee, contractor, or other agent) acting in concert with Respondent.

15. 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. No later than 10 days thereafter, Respondent shall notify the EPA in writing of the lease, sale, or other contract, with such notification to include the name and contact information

ConocoPhillips Company, Burlington Resources, Lost Cabin Gas Plant Page 3 of 3

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.

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

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

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

17. 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.

18. 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.

19. 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).

20. This Order is effective upon receipt by Respondent and will continue to be in effect until closed by the EPA.

Issued: 2016.

FOR

James H. Eppers, Supervisory Attorney Legal Enforcement Program Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

Arturo Palomares, Director Water Technical Enforcement Program Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice