

11:52 AM

April 9, 2021

Progress Report

Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Tribe Public Works
SDWA-08-2018-0013: Final Order
Supplemental Environmental Project
Computational Tool for Regulatory Assistance

Received by
EPA Region VIII
Hearing Clerk

Reporting Period: January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021

Narrative of Project during Reporting Period

As the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) for the Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Tribe Public Works, Uriah Heaps Spring and Whiterocks Public Water Systems, the Tribe shall develop and implement a computer program to audit and assist the Respondents' compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and regulations. The SEP will cost \$55,000 and be completed over a three-year period. The computer program will be developed over the first year. Compliance auditing as well as program training and support will continue for two additional years. The Tribe elects to develop the program with Natural Resources Consulting Engineers, Inc. (NRCE). The program will track the nature, timing, and costs of all SDWA regulatory requirements pertaining to Tribe's Public Water Systems and provide the Tribe with an understanding of necessary budget and rates, operational procedures, and record-keeping procedures at the Systems.

Task Accomplishments and Milestones Met during Reporting Period

The Scope of Work specified the following tasks to be completed for the project. Provided for each task is a short description of what has been accomplished during the reporting period, as well as a description of what was intended to be accomplished.

Task 1: Comprehensive documentation of UTWS regulatory compliance requirements

During this reporting period the Tribe performed the following work related to Task 1:

- Communicated with UTWS staff regarding upcoming monitoring requirements deadlines.
- Modified task schedule in UteTWS app to reassign or delete tasks as necessary.
- Facilitated response to the warning of potential violation letter from the EPA regarding the Revised Total Coliform Rule sampling and reporting.
- Communicated with water quality labs regarding current procedures for reporting results and presented findings to UTWS staff.
- Communicated with UTWS staff and EPA regarding notices of potential violation regarding nitrate and radioisotope sampling.
- Initiated a recurring weekly email providing a summary of the status of past and upcoming sampling tasks.
- Provided information to UTWS to assist with compliance with the April 1, 2021 deadline for reporting data to consecutive systems.

Task 2: Development of a regulatory compliance computational tool for UTWS

No work was performed regarding this task during this reporting period.

Task 3: Long-term documentation, training, and on-demand technical support

No work was performed regarding this task during this reporting period.

Potential setbacks

The Tribe does not anticipate any potential setbacks regarding the SEP at this time. The Ute Indian Tribe is currently on schedule as anticipated in the contract.

Expenditures made in implementation of the SEP

The Tribe's consultant, Natural Resources Consulting Engineers, Inc. (NRCE) has billed \$4,413.75 in consulting fees and expenses between January 1, 2021 and March 31, 2021. Total fees plus expenses billed as of March 31, 2021 are \$62,519.25. The project budget was set at \$55,000. Thus, this specific project budget has been consumed. A full year of operational support has been provided to UTWS.

Continuing Technical Support

Under UIT Business Committee Resolution 19-189 executed June 5 2019, NRCE continues to provide technical support to UTWS with operation and management of the UteTWS App to meet water quality monitoring requirements and maintain SDWA compliance under a new scope of work—"Implementation of the SWDA Action Plan to Remediate Recent Notices of Violation and Build a Comprehensive Process Workflow to Maintain EPA Compliance". Under this action plan, NRCE is assisting UTWS in a phased approach to maintain SWDA compliance:

- Phase 1: Eliminate the backlog of outstanding actions required of UTWS by the EPA
- Phase 2: Continue to ensure future UTWS's compliance with the EPA