



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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Denver, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

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DEC 28 2017

Ref: 8ENF-W-SDW

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Rick Rockey, President
Sweetwater County Recreation Board
333 Broadway Street #20
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Re: Administrative Order regarding Big Sandy Park Public Water System, PWS ID #5601188
Docket No. **SDWA-08-2018-0002**

Dear Mr. Rockey:

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 Sweetwater County (County), as owner and/or operator of the Big Sandy Park 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 the County 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 County, the EPA will assume the information in the Order is correct.

If the County 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 Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA) may apply to this situation. Enclosed is a small business information sheet, outlining compliance assistance resources available to small businesses and small governments, in case these are relevant. SBREFA does not eliminate the responsibility to comply with the Order or the Drinking Water Regulations.

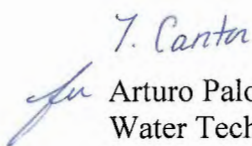
Please be aware that you are required to submit to the EPA a plan and schedule for bringing the System into compliance with the Drinking Water Regulations. The EPA's approval of the County's schedule does not substitute for any other approval that may be required by any other governmental entity for modifying the System. The EPA encourages the County to contact any such governmental agency or agencies regarding any applicable approval requirements.

You are required to notify the public quarterly by completing a public notice until the nitrate maximum contaminate level violation is resolved. Submit a copy of each completed public notice with certification of completion within 10 days of completion.

To submit information or to request an informal conference with the EPA, please contact Kathelene Brainich via email at brainich.kathelene@epa.gov or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6481 or (303) 312-6481. Any questions from your attorney should be directed to Mia Bearley, Enforcement Attorney, who may be reached via email at bearley.mia@epa.gov, by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6554, or (303) 312-6554, or at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-L),

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


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

Enclosures

cc: Don Van Matre, Sweetwater County Commissioner (vanmatred@sweet.wy.us)
Chris Bradford, Recreation Superintendent (bradfordc@sweet.wy.us)
Kathy Shreve, WY DEQ/UIC Program (kathy.shreve@wyo.gov)
WY DEQ/DOH (via email)
Melissa Haniewicz, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk

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IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
Sweetwater County,)
(Big Sandy Park))
)
Respondent.)

Docket No. **SDWA-08-2018-0002**

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 (Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g), as properly delegated to the undersigned officials.
2. Sweetwater County (Respondent) is a governmental agency that owns and/or operates the Big Sandy Park Public Water System (System), which provides piped water to the public in Sweetwater County, Wyoming, for human consumption.
3. The System is supplied by a groundwater source accessed via one well and is operated year-round. The water is not treated.
4. The System has approximately 6 service connections and regularly serves at least 40 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year. Therefore, the System is a “public water system” as defined in § 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. 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 nitrate is 10 milligrams per liter (mg/l) based upon the average of an initial and confirmation sample. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.23(f)(3) and 141.62(b). The average of the initial sample taken on November 1, 2017, of 11 mg/l and a confirmation sample taken on November 7, 2017, of 12 mg/l from the System is 11.5 mg/l and, therefore, Respondent violated the nitrate MCL.
7. Respondent is required to report any failure to comply with any Drinking Water Regulation to the EPA 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 paragraph 6, above, to the EPA 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):

8. Within 90 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the EPA a proposed plan and schedule for the System to come into compliance with the nitrate MCL as identified in 40 C.F.R. § 141.62(b). 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 6 months of the project start 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 begin to provide the EPA with quarterly reports on the progress made toward bringing the System into compliance with the nitrate MCL. Each quarterly report is due by the 10th 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. Respondent must achieve and maintain compliance with the nitrate MCL by the final date specified in the approved schedule. If implementation of the plan fails to achieve permanent compliance, the EPA may order further steps and/or seek penalties for noncompliance.
13. Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and quarterly thereafter until notified by the EPA in writing of a different monitoring schedule, Respondent shall monitor the System's water for nitrate. 40 C.F.R. § 141.23(g). Respondent shall report analytical results to the EPA within the first 10 days following the month in which each sample result is received, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).
14. Respondent shall report any failure to comply with any Drinking Water Regulation to the EPA within 48 hours, except where the Drinking Water Regulations specify a different time period. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b).
15. This Order shall be binding on Respondent and any person (e.g., employee, contractor or other agent) acting in concert with Respondent.
16. If Respondent contracts with or hires any other person or entity to operate the System, Respondent shall immediately provide a copy of this Order to the contractor or staff. No later

than 10 days thereafter, Respondent shall notify the EPA in writing of the name and contact information of the person who has been contracted or hired to operate the System. Respondent shall remain obligated to comply with this Order even if Respondent hires another person or entity to operate the System.

17. Respondent shall send all reporting and notifications required by this Order to the EPA via email at R8DWU@epa.gov and brainich.kathelene@epa.gov.


GENERAL PROVISIONS

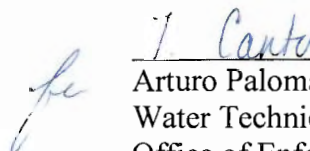
18. This Order shall not constitute a waiver, suspension or modification of any requirement of the Act or the Drinking Water Regulations. Issuance of this Order is not an election by the EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action.

19. Violation of any part of this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations may subject Respondent to a civil penalty of up to \$54,789 (as adjusted for inflation) per day of violation. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3; 40 C.F.R. part 19; 81 Fed. Reg. 43091 (January 12, 2017).

20. Respondent may seek federal judicial review of this Order pursuant to section 1448(a) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300j-7(a).

Issued: December 28, 2018.


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


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

U.S. EPA Small Business Resources Information Sheet

The United States Environmental Protection Agency provides an array of resources to help small businesses understand and comply with federal and state environmental laws. In addition to helping small businesses understand their environmental obligations and improve compliance, these resources will also help such businesses find cost-effective ways to comply through pollution prevention techniques and innovative technologies.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)

www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-small-and-disadvantaged-business-utilization-osdbu

EPA's OSDBU advocates and advances business, regulatory, and environmental compliance concerns of small and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses.

EPA's Asbestos Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO)

www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/asbestos-small-business-ombudsman or 1-800-368-5888

The EPA ASBO serves as a conduit for small businesses to access EPA and facilitates communications between the small business community and the Agency.

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

<https://nationalsbeap.org>

This program provides a "one-stop shop" for small businesses and assistance providers seeking information on a wide range of environmental topics and state-specific environmental compliance assistance resources.

EPA's Compliance Assistance Homepage

www.epa.gov/compliance

This page is a gateway to industry and statute-specific environmental resources, from extensive web-based information to hotlines and compliance assistance specialists.

Compliance Assistance Centers

www.complianceassistance.net

EPA sponsored Compliance Assistance Centers provide information targeted to industries with many small businesses. They were developed in partnership with industry, universities and other federal and state agencies.

Agriculture

www.epa.gov/agriculture

Automotive Recycling

www.ecarcenter.org

Automotive Service and Repair

www.ccar-greenlink.org or 1-888-GRN-LINK

Chemical Manufacturing

www.chemalliance.org

Construction

www.cicacenter.org

Education

www.cainpuserc.org

Food Processing

www.fpeac.org

Healthcare

www.hercenter.org

Local Government

www.lgean.org

Surface Finishing

<http://www.sterc.org>

Paints and Coatings

www.paintcenter.org

Printing

www.pneac.org

Ports

www.portcompliance.org

Transportation

www.tercenter.org

U.S. Border Compliance and Import/Export Issues

www.bordercenter.org

EPA Hotlines and Clearinghouses

www.epa.gov/home/epa-hotlines

EPA sponsors many free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements. Examples include:

Clean Air Technology Center (CATC) Info-line

www.epa.gov/catc or 1-919-541-0800

Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP, and Oil Information Center

1-800-424-9346

EPA Imported Vehicles and Engines Public Helpline

www.epa.gov/otaq/imports or 1-734-214-4100

National Pesticide Information Center

www.npic.orst.edu or 1-800-858-7378

National Response Center Hotline to report oil and hazardous substance spills - <http://nrc.uscg.mil> or 1-800-424-8802

Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (PPIC) -

www.epa.gov/p2/pollution-prevention-resources#ppic or 1-202-566-0799

Safe Drinking Water Hotline -

www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline or 1-800-426-4791

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Hotline

tsca-hotline@epa.gov or 1-202-554-1404

Small Entity Compliance Guides

<https://www.epa.gov/reg-flex/small-entity-compliance-guides>

EPA publishes a Small Entity Compliance Guide (SECG) for every rule for which the Agency has prepared a final regulatory flexibility analysis, in accordance with Section 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA).

Regional Small Business Liaisons

www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/epa-regional-office-small-business-liaisons

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Small Business Liaison (RSBL) is the primary regional contact and often the expert on small business assistance, advocacy, and outreach. The RSBL is the regional voice for the EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO).

State Resource Locators

www.envcap.org/statetools

The Locators provide state-specific contacts, regulations and resources covering the major environmental laws.

State Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs)

<https://nationalsbeap.org/states/list>

State SBEAPs help small businesses and assistance providers understand environmental requirements and sustainable business practices through workshops, trainings and site visits.

EPA's Tribal Portal

www.epa.gov/tribalportal

The Portal helps users locate tribal-related information within EPA and other federal agencies.

EPA Compliance Incentives

EPA provides incentives for environmental compliance. By participating in compliance assistance programs or voluntarily disclosing and promptly correcting violations before an enforcement action has been initiated, businesses may be eligible for penalty waivers or reductions. EPA has two such policies that may apply to small businesses:

EPA's Small Business Compliance Policy

www.epa.gov/enforcement/small-businesses-and-enforcement

EPA's Audit Policy

www.epa.gov/compliance/epas-audit-policy

Commenting on Federal Enforcement Actions and Compliance Activities

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) established a SBREFA Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. If you believe that you fall within the Small Business Administration's definition of a small business (based on your North American Industry Classification System designation, number of employees or annual receipts, as defined at 13 C.F.R. 121.201; in most cases, this means a business with 500 or fewer employees), and wish to comment on federal enforcement and compliance activities, call the SBREFA Ombudsman's toll-free number at 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

Every small business that is the subject of an enforcement or compliance action is entitled to comment on the Agency's actions without fear of retaliation. EPA employees are prohibited from using enforcement or any other means of retaliation against any member of the regulated community in response to comments made under SBREFA.

Your Duty to Comply

If you receive compliance assistance or submit a comment to the SBREFA Ombudsman or Regional Fairness Boards, you still have the duty to comply with the law, including providing timely responses to EPA information requests, administrative or civil complaints, other enforcement actions or communications. The assistance information and comment processes do not give you any new rights or defenses in any enforcement action. These processes also do not affect EPA's obligation to protect public health or the environment under any of the environmental statutes it enforces, including the right to take emergency remedial or emergency response actions when appropriate. Those decisions will be based on the facts in each situation. The SBREFA Ombudsman and Fairness Boards do not participate in resolving EPA's enforcement actions. Also, remember that to preserve your rights, you need to comply with all rules governing the enforcement process.

EPA is disseminating this information to you without making a determination that your business or organization is a small business as defined by Section 222 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act or related provisions.