



**REGION 8**  
DENVER, CO 80202

January 5, 2024

**FILED**

**1/5/2024**

**4:21 PM**

**U.S. EPA REGION 8  
HEARING CLERK**

Ref: 8ENF-W-SD

SENT VIA EMAIL  
DIGITAL DELIVERY RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Illiff "Scott" Kipp Sr., Chairman  
Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana  
skipp@blackfeetnation.com

K. Webb Galbreath  
Blackfeet Water Department Director  
kwebb@blackfeetnation.com

Subj: Emergency Administrative Order under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, Town of Browning Public Water System PWS ID #083090091 and Two Medicine Water Public Water System PWS ID #083090090, Docket No. SDWA-08-2024-0010

Dear Chairman Kipp Sr. and Mr. Galbreath:

Enclosed is an Emergency Administrative Order (Order) issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to the Two Medicine Water Company (TMWC) under section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300i.

The EPA has determined that conditions exist at the Town of Browning and Two Medicine Water Public Water Systems (Systems) that may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the persons served by the Town of Browning System. The EPA has made this determination based on notification from TMWC on January 3, 2024, that the Town of Browning System lost pressure.

Pursuant to the authority set forth in section 1431 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300i, the EPA is authorized to take actions necessary to protect human health. The Order and its requirements are necessary to ensure adequate protection of public health.

The enclosed Order sets forth the actions that must be taken to ensure that the people served by the Systems are provided with safe drinking water. The Order requires the TMWC to, among other things, take the following actions: issue a boil water advisory and provide an alternate source of water until

notified by the EPA to discontinue; submit a plan and schedule to resolve the pressure loss; disinfect and flush the Town of Browning System; and take additional total coliform bacteria samples at the Town of Browning System.

The penalties for failing to comply are set forth in the Order. If you have any questions or wish to discuss the Order, please contact Steven Latino via email at [latino.steven@epa.gov](mailto:latino.steven@epa.gov), or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6440, or (303) 312-6440. Any questions from counsel should be directed to Matthew Castelli, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel, via email at [castelli.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:castelli.matthew@epa.gov) or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6491, or (303) 312-6491.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Suzanne J. Bohan, Director  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

#### ENCLOSURES

1. Emergency Administrative Order

cc: Lauren Monroe Jr., Vice Chair  
Dawn Gray, Esq., Tribal Attorney  
Gerald Wagner, Blackfeet Tribe  
Derek Kline, Tribal Attorney  
Gerald Bechel, Operator  
Josh Bechel, Operator  
Jenice Runningcrane, Blackfeet Tribe  
Richard Racine, IHS  
EPA Regional Hearing Clerk