

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8

1595 Wynkoop Street Denver, CO 80202-1129 Phone 800-227-8917 www.epa.gov/region08

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EPA REGION VIII

Ref: 8ENF-W-SDW

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Lynda Roark, Executive Director Mountain Top Baptist Assembly P.O. 456 Glendo, Wyoming 82213

Re: Administrative Order regarding Mountain Top Baptist Assembly Public Water System, PWS ID # WY5601710, Docket No. **SDWA-08-2019-0010**

Dear Ms. Roark:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (Order) issued by the United States 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 the you, as the owner and/or operator of the Mountain Top Baptist Assembly Public Water System (System), have violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (Drinking Water Regulations) at 40 C.F.R. part 141.

The Order is effective upon the date received. Please review the Order and within 10 days provide the EPA with any pertinent information you believe the EPA may not have (e.g., any monitoring that may have been done but not submitted, any updates to the number of service connections and/or individuals served, etc.). If the EPA does not hear from you, the EPA will assume this information is correct.

If you comply with the Order, the EPA may close the Order without further action. Failure to comply with the Order may lead to substantial civil administrative 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.

If you have any questions or to request an informal conference with the EPA, please contact Christina Carballal via email at <u>carballal-broome.christina@epa.gov</u> or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6046, or (303) 312-6046. Any questions from your attorney should be directed to Mia Bearley, Enforcement Attorney, via email at <u>bearley.mia@epa.gov</u> or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6554, or (303) 312-6554.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Aaron Urdiales, Acting Director Water Technical Enforcement Program Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

Enclosures

cc: WY DEQ/DOH (via email)

Natrona County Commissioners (mmaines@natronacounty-wy.gov))

Melissa Haniewicz, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk

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IN THE MATTER OF:)	EJA DEC JA VIII
Mountain Top Baptist Assembly PWSS ID# WY5601710)))	Docket No. SDWA-08-2019-0010 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. Mountain Top Baptist Assembly (Respondent) is a Wyoming corporation that owns and/or operates the Mountain Top Baptist Assembly Public Water System (System), which provides piped water to the public in Natrona County, Wyoming, for human consumption.
- 3. The System is supplied by a spring groundwater source via a pipe to a storage tank. The System is operated seasonally from June to September. The water is untreated.
- 4. The System has approximately 6 service connections and/or regularly serves an average of approximately 175 individuals daily at least 60 days 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 "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).
- 6. The Drinking Water Regulations include monitoring requirements. The EPA has sent Respondent annual notifications of the specific monitoring requirements that apply to the System.

VIOLATIONS

- 7. Respondent is required to monitor the System's water for nitrite beginning in the initial compliance period. 40 C.F.R. § 141.23 (a) and (e). Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for nitrite during the first quarter of operation as directed by the EPA between April 1, and June 30, 2018, and therefore violated this requirement. The System eventually monitored for nitrite on August 9, 2018.
- 8. Respondent is required to monitor the System's water for nitrate beginning in the initial compliance period. 40 C.F.R. § 141.23 (a) and (d). Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for nitrate during the first quarter of operation as directed by the EPA between April 1, and June 30, 2018, and therefore violated this requirement. The System eventually monitored for nitrate on August 9, 2018.

- 9. Respondent is required to monitor the System's water monthly for total coliform bacteria from June through September each year. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.853-858. Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for total coliform bacteria in September 2017 and June, July and September 2018 and, therefore, violated this requirement.
- 10. Respondent is required to complete seasonal start-up procedures as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.854-861. Prior to opening to the public each year, Respondent must send a signed copy of a completed start-up procedures checklist to the EPA. Respondent failed to complete seasonal start-up procedures and/or failed to submit a signed certification of the completed checklist to the EPA prior to opening to the public in June 2018 and, therefore, violated these requirements.
- 11. Respondent is required to notify the public of certain violations of the Drinking Water Regulations no later than 1 year after the System learns of the violation and, within 10 days after completing the public notice, provide a copy of the public notice to the EPA. 40 C.F.R §§ 141.201-141.211. Respondent failed to notify the public of the total coliform bacteria in September 2017 violation cited in paragraph 9 and submit a copy to the EPA, and therefore violated this requirement.
- 12. Respondent is required to notify the public of certain violations of the Drinking Water Regulations and, within 10 days after completing public notice, provide a copy of the public notice to the EPA. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.201-141.211. Respondent failed to notify the public of the June 2018 seasonal start-up procedures violations cited in paragraph 10, above and failed to submit a copy to the EPA, and therefore violated this requirement.
- 13. Respondent is required to report any failure to comply with any coliform monitoring requirement to the EPA within 10 days after discovering the violation. 40 C.F.R. § 141.861(a)(4). Respondent failed to report the violations cited in paragraph 9 above, to the EPA and, therefore, violated this requirement.
- 14. 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 violations cited in paragraphs 7, 8 and 10 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):

15. Respondent shall monitor for nitrate annually as required by the Drinking Water Regulations and as directed by the EPA. 40 C.F.R. § 141.23 (a) and (d). The next nitrate sampling is due in 2019. Respondent shall report monitoring results to the EPA within the first 10 days following either (1) the month in which the result is received or (2) the end of the required monitoring period as stipulated by the EPA, whichever is shortest. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).

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- 16. Respondent shall monitor the System's water monthly for total coliform bacteria from June through September each year. If a sample is positive for total coliform, within 24 hours of being notified of the positive result, Respondent shall collect a set of three repeat samples for each total coliform-positive sample. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.853-858. Respondent shall report total coliform analytical results to the EPA within the first 10 days following the end of the System's required monitoring period. See 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).
- 17. Respondent shall complete seasonal start-up procedures as required by 40 C.F.R. §§141.854-861 prior to opening to the public in 2019 or by June 1, 2019, whichever occurs first. The start-up procedures checklist can be found at https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-12/documents/rtcr_seasonal_startup_checklist.pdf. Prior to opening to the public each year, Respondent shall send a signed copy of the completed start-up procedures checklist to the EPA.
- 18. Within 30 days after opening to the public or by June 30, 2019, whichever occurs first, Respondent shall notify the public of the violations cited in paragraphs 7, 8, and 9 above. Templates and instructions are available at https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/public-notification-drinking-water-violations-wyoming-and-tribal-lands-epa-region-8. The template to use for the Tier 3 public notification is title Drinking Water Contaminant Failure to Monitor (FTM) Template (https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/pn_ftm.pdf). Within 10 days after providing public notice, Respondents shall submit a copy of the notice to the EPA. Thereafter, following any future violation of the Drinking Water Regulations, Respondents shall comply with any applicable public notice provisions of 40 C.F.R. part 141, subpart Q.
- 19. Within 30 days after opening to the public or by June 30, 2019, whichever occurs first, Respondent shall notify the public of the violations cited in paragraph 10 above. Template and instructions are available at https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/revised-total-coliform-rule-failure-perform-seasonal-startup-pn-template). Within 10 days after providing public notice, Respondents shall submit a copy of the notice to the EPA. Thereafter, following any future violation of the Drinking Water Regulations, Respondents shall comply with any applicable public notice provisions of 40 C.F.R. part 141, subpart Q.
- 20. Respondent shall report any violation of coliform monitoring requirements to the EPA within 10 days after discovering the violation, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.861(a)(4).
- 21. For any future violation of the Drinking Water Regulations for which this Order does not specify a reporting period, Respondent shall report the violation to the EPA within 48 hours of the violation occurring, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b). However, if the Drinking Water Regulations specify a different time period for reporting the particular violation, Respondent shall report the violation to the EPA within that different period.
- 22. 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.

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- 23. 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, within ten days, provide a copy of this Order to the lessee, purchaser, or contractor and notify the EPA in writing of the change. Respondent shall remain obligated to comply with this Order even if Respondent leases or sells the System to another person or entity or contracts with or hires another person or entity to operate the System.
- 24. Respondent shall send all reporting and notifications required by this Order to the EPA at: Email: R8DWU@epa.gov, and Carballal-Broome.Christina@epa.gov

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 25. 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.
- 26. Violation of any part of this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations may subject Respondent to a civil penalty of up to \$55,907 (as adjusted for inflation) per day of violation and/or a court injunction ordering compliance. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3; 40 C.F.R. part 19; 83 Fed. Reg. at 1193 (January 10, 2018).
- 27. 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).

Issued: February 11, 2019.

Amy Swanson, Supervisory Attorney Regulatory Enforcement Unit

Legal Enforcement Program

Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

Aaron Urdiales, Acting 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-officesmall-and-disadvantaged-businessutilization-osdbu

EPA's OSBBU 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-smallbusinesses/asbestos-small-businessombudsman 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 statespecific 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.campuserc.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

U.S. Small Business Resources

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.