



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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

MAR 23 2007

Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL LETTER # 7003 2260 0002 0331 6762
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ronald Quanbeck, Registered Agent
Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Shepherd, Montana
P.O. Box 66
Shepherd, MT 59079

Re: Administrative Order
Docket No. SDWA-08-2007-0016
ID # MT0003836

Dear Mr. Quanbeck:

Enclosed you will find an Administrative Order (Order), which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act (the Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq., and its implementing regulations. Among other things, the Administrative Order finds that Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Shepherd, Montana (Emmanuel Lutheran Church) is a supplier of water as defined by the Act and that it has violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWRs) at 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.21, 141.201, 141.21(g)(2) and 141.31(b), for: failure to monitor for bacteriological quality; failure to provide public notice of the violations; and failure to notify the State of the violations.

If Emmanuel Lutheran Church complies with the enclosed Order for a period of at least twelve months, EPA may choose to close the Order. Violating the enclosed Order may lead to (1) a penalty of up to \$32,500 per day of violation of the Order, (2) a separate such penalty for violating the regulations themselves, and/or (3) a court injunction ordering you to comply.

Among other things, the Order requires Emmanuel Lutheran Church to provide a public notification of violations of the Act. For your convenience, we have enclosed some template forms to assist you in providing the required public notice. If you have any questions or comments concerning the form of public notice, please do not hesitate to contact Darcy O'Connor, whose telephone number is provided below.

Please note that the effective date of the enclosed Order is the date of issuance. Within the next 10 days, please provide EPA with any new information that you believe the Agency is not aware of relating to the alleged violations in the Order. The information may be sent to Darcy O'Connor at the address on the letterhead, with the mailcode 8ENF-W, or you may call Ms. O'Connor at (800) 227-8917, extension 6392, or (303) 312-6392. If you wish to have an

informal conference with EPA, you may also call or write Ms. O'Connor. If you are represented by an attorney, please feel free to ask your attorney to contact Peggy Livingston at the above 800 number, extension 6858, or at (303) 312-6858.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Diane L. Sipe, Director
Technical Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice

Enclosures

Order
Public Notice template

cc: John Arrigo, MT DEQ
Kate Miller, MT DEQ

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

2007 MAR 23 AM 8:04

IN THE MATTER OF)
)
Emmanuel Lutheran Church)
of Shepherd, Montana)
Shepherd, MT)
)
Respondent)
)
Proceedings under Section 1414(g))
of the Safe Drinking Water Act,)
42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g))
_____)

EPA REGION VIII
HEARING CLERK

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Docket No. SDWA-08-2007-0016

The following Findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Section 1414(g) of the Safe Drinking Water Act ("the Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g), and its implementing regulations, as properly delegated to the Supervisors of the Technical and Legal Enforcement Programs of the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice, EPA Region 8.

FINDINGS

1. The Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Shepherd, Montana ("Respondent") is a nonprofit corporation with members under the laws of Montana and therefore a "person" within the meaning of section 1401(12) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(12) and 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
2. Respondent owns and/or operates a system, the Emmanuel Lutheran Church Water System (the "System"), located in Yellowstone County, Montana, for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption.

3. The System has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year and is therefore a "public water system" within the meaning of section 1401(4) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(4) and a "non-community" water system within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
4. Respondent owns and/or operates a public water system and is therefore a "supplier of water" within the meaning of section 1401(5) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(5) and 40 C.F.R. § 141.2. Respondent is therefore subject to the requirements of Part B of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g, and its implementing regulations, 40 C.F.R. Part 141, also known as the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations ("NPDWRs").
5. According to a September 23, 2003 sanitary survey conducted by the Yellowstone City-County Health Department, the System is supplied solely by a ground water source consisting of one well located on site. Water is supplied to the church year-round. The System provides water to approximately 70 persons year-round.
6. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality ("MDEQ" or the "State") has primary enforcement authority for the Act in the State of Montana. On January 17, 2007, EPA issued a Notice of Violation pursuant to section 1414(a) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g- 3(a) to the MDEQ regarding the violations at the System. MDEQ elected not to commence an appropriate enforcement action against the system for the violations within the thirty-day time frame set forth in section 1414(a) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g- 3(a).



7. EPA has provided the State, through MDEQ, with an opportunity to confer with EPA regarding this Order pursuant to section 1414(g)(2) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(2).
8. EPA has provided a copy of this Order to MDEQ pursuant to section 1414(g)(2) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(2).
9. EPA is issuing this Order pursuant to section 1414(g) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g), to require the System to comply with the “applicable requirements” it violated.
10. An “applicable requirement” includes, among other things, a requirement of an applicable approved State program, such as Montana’s “Public Water Supply Requirements” at Administrative Rules of Montana (“ARM”) 17.38.101 through 703. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(i).

FINDINGS OF VIOLATION

I.

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(a)(3)(i) requires non-community water systems using only ground water and serving 1,000 persons or fewer to monitor for total coliform each calendar quarter that the system provides water to the public to determine compliance with the maximum contaminant level (“MCL”) for total coliform bacteria as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63.
2. The State requires non-community public water systems to sample for total coliform once each month, as set forth in ARM 17.38.215(1)(b), which adopted portions of 40 C.F.R. § 141.21.

3. Respondent failed to monitor for total coliform for the following months: January – February 2002, April 2002, June 2002, October 2002, January 2003, March 2003, May 2003, July 2003, September – October 2003, December 2003, January 2004, March – April 2004, June 2004, August – October 2004, January – March 2005, May 2005, July 2005, September 2005, November 2005, January 2006, March 2006, May – June 2006, and August – September 2006 in violation of ARM 17.38.215(1)(b) and 40 C.F.R. § 141.21.

II.

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2) requires each public water system to report any failure to comply with a coliform bacteria monitoring requirement to the State within ten business days after the system discovers the violation.
2. Respondent failed to report to the State instances of noncompliance detailed in Section I, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2).

III.

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.201 requires owners and/or operators of public water systems to notify the public of any violations of the NPDWRs, including violations of the MCL, maximum residual disinfection level (“MRDL”), treatment technique (“TT”), monitoring requirements, and testing procedures in 40 C.F.R. Part 141.
2. Respondent has not provided public notice of the violations outlined in Section I, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.201.

IV.

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b) requires owners and/or operators of public water systems to notify the State within 48 hours the failure to comply with any NPDWR, including public notice requirements.
2. Respondent failed to report to the State instances of noncompliance detailed in Section III, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings, and pursuant to Section 1414(g) of the Act, IT IS ORDERED:

1. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall monitor the water for total coliform monthly as required by ARM 17.38.215(1)(b) to determine compliance with the total coliform MCL appearing at ARM 17.38.207(1) and
1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.63(a)(2). Respondent shall report results to EPA and the State within ten days following the end of each monitoring period, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).
2. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2) by reporting any failure to comply with coliform monitoring requirements under 40 C.F.R. § 141.21 to EPA and the State within ten days after the System discovers the violation.
3. Within 30 days from the effective date of this Order, Respondent must provide public notice of the violations specified under the Findings of Violation Section I in this Order, to return to compliance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.201, 141.204 and

141.205. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with the public notification requirements at 40 C.F.R. § 141.201 et seq. following any future NPDWR violation. Respondent shall submit a copy of the public notice to EPA and the State within ten days of completion of the public notice, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(d). This notice shall be given by (1) posting the notice in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system frequented by persons served by the System OR (2) by mail or direct delivery to each customer and service connection; AND (3) any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons served by the System if they would not normally be reached by the notice required above, such as publication in a local newspaper or newsletter distributed to customers; use of E-mail to notify employees or students; or delivery of multiple copies in central locations. If the public notice is posted, the notice must remain in place for as long as the violation or situation persists, but for no less than seven days. The System must repeat the notice every three months as long as the violation or situation persists.

4. Except where a different reporting period is specified above, upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b) by reporting any failure to comply with any NPDWR (40 C.F.R. part 141) to EPA and the State within 48 hours.
5. Reporting requirements specified in this Order shall be provided by certified mail to the following addresses:

U. S. EPA Region 8 (8ENF-W)
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, Colorado 80202
Attn: Darcy O'Connor

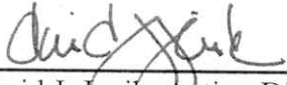
Montana Department of
Environmental Quality – PWSS
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
Attn: Kate Miller




GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 141.1 et seq., or the Act, which remain in full force and effect. Issuance of this Order is not an election by EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action otherwise authorized under the Act.
2. Violation of any term of this Order may subject the Respondent to an administrative civil penalty of up to \$27,500, under section 1414(g)(3)(B) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(3)(B), or a civil penalty of not more than \$32,500 per day of violation, assessed by an appropriate U.S. district court under sections 1414(g)(3)(A) and (C) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(3)(A) and (C).
3. Violation of any requirement of the Act or its implementing regulations may subject Respondent to a civil penalty of not more than \$32,500 per day of violation, assessed by an appropriate U.S. district court under section 1414(b) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(b).
4. The effective date of this Order shall be the date of issuance of this Order.

Issued this 23rd day of March, 2007.



David J. Janik, Acting Director
Legal Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice



Diane L. Sipe, Director
Technical Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice