



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8

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

2016 JUL 18 AM 9:31

JUL 18 2016

FILED  
EPA REGION VIII  
HEARING CLERK

Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ridgewater Improvement District  
Thad Alexander, President  
P.O. Box 1406  
Douglas, Wyoming 82633

Re: Notice Safe Drinking Water Act Enforcement Action against Ridgewater Improvement District, PWS ID #5600285, Docket No. **SDWA-08-2016-0014**

Dear Mr. Alexander:

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 Ridgewater Improvement District (Ridgewater), as owner and/or operator of the Ridgewater Improvement District public water system, has violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 141.


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

If Ridgewater 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.

To submit information or request an informal conference with the EPA, please contact Metea Wright at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-W), via email at [wright.metea@epa.gov](mailto:wright.metea@epa.gov), or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6023 or (303) 312-6023. Any questions from your attorney should be directed to Mia Bearley, Enforcement Attorney, who may be reached at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-L), via email at [bearley.mia@epa.gov](mailto:bearley.mia@epa.gov), or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6554 or (303) 312-6554.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosure

cc: WY DEQ/ DOH (via email)  
Missy Haniewicz, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk



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**JUL 18 2016**

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CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Converse County Commissioners  
c/o Rick Grant, Chair  
107 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Douglas, Wyoming 82633

Re: Notice Safe Drinking Water Act Enforcement Action against Ridgewater Improvement District, PWS ID #5600285 **Docket No. SDWA-08-2016-0014**

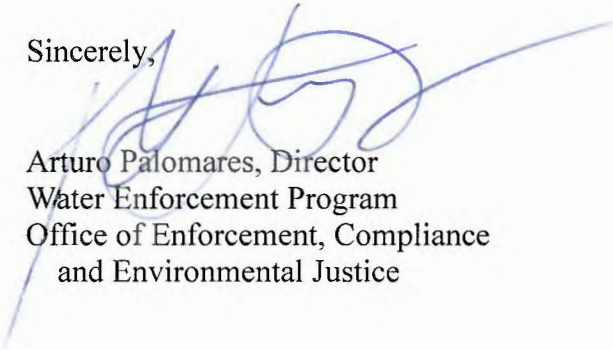
Dear Commissioners:

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notify locally elected officials of certain enforcement actions taken in their area.

An Administrative Order (Order) is being issued to the Ridgewater Improvement District, as owner and/or operator of the Ridgewater Improvement District Public Water System (System), located in Converse County, directing it to comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The violations alleged in the Order are for failure to monitor the System's water for disinfection byproducts and total coliform and failure to prepare and deliver an annual consumer confidence report to the System's customers and to the EPA.

For more details, a copy of the Order is enclosed for your information. The Order does not require any response or action by the County Commission. If you have any questions regarding this Order, please contact Metea Wright at (303) 312-6023.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosure

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8

2016 JUL 18 AM 9:31

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 )  
Ridgewater Improvement District, )  
 )  
Respondent. )

Docket No. ~~SDWA-08-2016-0014~~

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**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. The Ridgewater Improvement District (Respondent) is a district that owns and/or operates the Ridgewater Improvement District Public Water System (System), which provides piped water to the public in Douglas, Wyoming for human consumption.
3. The System purchases water from the Town of Douglas Water System. Water is gravity fed through a master meter directly to the distribution system of the Ridgewater Improvement District. There is no additional disinfection or storage.
4. The System has approximately 95 service connections and/or regularly serves an average of approximately 300 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 “consecutive community water system” as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
5. Respondent is required to monitor for disinfection byproducts in compliance with the System’s Stage 2 Monitoring Plan dated July 1, 2014, (Monitoring Plan), pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 141.622.
6. 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).
7. 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**

8. Respondent is required to collect a dual sample set of total trihalomethanes (TTHM) and haloacetic acids (HAA5) samples annually at the location and on the date identified in the Monitoring Plan 40 C.F.R. § 141.621. Respondent failed to monitor the System’s water for TTHM and HAA5 during August 2015 and, therefore, violated this requirement.
9. Within 24 hours of being notified that any routine sample of the System’s water is positive for total coliform, Respondent is required to collect a set of 4 repeat samples. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(b). Respondent failed to take 4 repeat samples of the System’s water within 24 hours of a result that was positive for total coliform on December 27, 2011, and, therefore, violated this requirement.

10. Respondent is required to prepare and deliver an annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to the System's customers by July 1 of each year and to certify to the EPA that it has done so. The CCR is to include information about the quality of the System's water using data collected during, or prior to, the previous calendar year. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.151-141.155. Respondent failed to prepare and deliver an annual CCR for 2014 to the System's customers and to the EPA. Respondent also failed to provide a certification to the EPA for 2014. Therefore, Respondent violated these requirements.

11. 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. § 141.21(g)(2). Respondent failed to report the violation cited in paragraph 9 above to the EPA and, therefore, violated this requirement.

12. 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 paragraph 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):

13. Respondent shall monitor the System's water annually for TTHM and HAA5 at the location and on the date identified in the Monitoring Plan, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.622. Respondent shall monitor at the specified location (23 Meadow Green Place) during the month of August, per the Monitoring Plan. Respondent shall submit the annual sampling results to the EPA within 10 days following the end of the quarter in which monitoring is required. 40 C.F.R. § 141.629.

14. In compliance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule, Respondent shall monitor the System's water monthly for total coliform bacteria and, if any sample is positive for total coliform, collect 3 repeat samples as required by 40 C.F.R. 141.853-858. Respondent shall report analytical results to the EPA within the first 10 days following the month in which Respondent receives sample results, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a). Respondent shall report any violation of coliform monitoring requirements in 40 C.F.R. part 141 to the EPA within 10 days after discovering the violation, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.861(a)(4).

15. Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall (1) prepare an annual CCR (to include all information required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.153 and 154 for the System for 2014, (2) distribute the CCR to the System's customers and the EPA and (3) certify to the EPA that the CCR has been distributed to the System's customers and that its information is correct and consistent with monitoring data previously provided to the EPA. Thereafter, Respondent shall prepare and distribute annual CCRs and provide certifications as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.151-141.155.

16. This Order shall be binding on Respondent, its successors and assigns, and any person (e.g.,

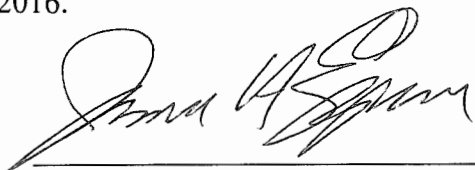
16. This Order shall be binding on Respondent, its successors and assigns, and any person (e.g., employee, contractor, or other agent) acting in concert with Respondent.
17. Respondent shall send all reporting and notifications required by this Order in writing to:

U.S. EPA Region 8 (8P-W-DW)  
1595 Wynkoop Street  
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129  
Email: R8DWU@epa.gov  
Fax 1-877-876-9101

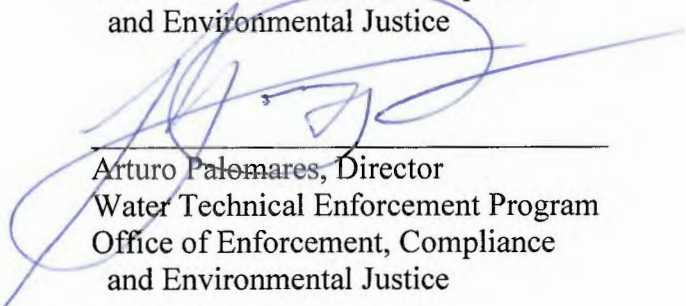
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

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 \$37,500 (as adjusted for inflation) per day of violation. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3; 40 C.F.R. part 19.
20. 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).
21. This Order is effective upon receipt by Respondent and will continue to be in effect until closed by the EPA.

Issued: July 18th, 2016.



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



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