



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

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

August 16, 2021

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Received by
EPA Region VIII
Hearing Clerk

Ref: 8ENF-W-SD

SENT VIA EMAIL
DIGITAL READ RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Shaun Chapoose, Chairman
Ute Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 190,
Fort Duchesne UT 84026
shaunc@utetribe.com

Re: Emergency Administrative Order under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act,
Issued to the Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Tribe Public Works, Uriah Heeps Spring Public
Water System, PWS ID #084990002
Docket No. SDWA-08-2021-0038

Dear Chairman Chapoose:

Enclosed is an Emergency Administrative Order (Order) issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to the Ute Indian Tribe (Tribe) and the Ute Tribal Public Works (Public Works) under section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300i.

The EPA has determined that conditions exist at the Uriah Heeps Spring Public Water System (System) that may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the persons served by the System. The EPA has made this determination based on a notification from TriCounty Health Department Environmental Laboratory on August 12, 2021, that the System has *E. coli* and total coliform contamination, as described in the Order.

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 System are provided with safe drinking water. The Order requires the Tribe and Public Works to, among other things, take the following actions: for the communities of Randlett and Ouray (and households in between), issue a boil water advisory and provide an alternate source of water until notified by the EPA to discontinue; submit a plan and schedule for corrective actions; disinfect and flush the System; and take additional total coliform bacteria samples.

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 Nathaniel Hicks at (800) 227-8917, extension 6467, or 303-312-6546, or by email at hicks.nathaniel@epa.gov. Any questions from the Tribe's or Public Works' legal counsel should be directed to Matthew Castelli, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel, (800) 227-8917, extension 6491, or at (303) 312-6491, or by email at castelli.matthew@epa.gov.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Suzanne J. Bohan, Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

Enclosures

cc: Missy Haniewicz, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk
Edred Secakuku, Vice-Chairman, (tonys@utetribe.com)
Luke Duncan, Councilman, (luked@utetribe.com)
Ronald Wopsock, Councilman, (ronaldw@utetribe.com)
J.T. Murray, Councilman, (juliusm@utetribe.com)
Christopher Tabbee, Councilman, (christ@utetribe.com)
Bart Powaukee, Water Quality Coordinator, (bartp@utetribe.com)
Timothy Beavers, IHS, (tim.beavers@ihs.gov)
Eli Champoos, Utilities Director, (elic@utetribe.com)
Rosailea Vanderhoop, Assistant Director, (rvanderhoop@utetribe.com)
Adriane Eagle Hawk, Alternate Operator, (lakota_singer@yahoo.com)
Felicia Cuch, Emergency Manager, (feleciac@utetribe.com)
Jeremy Patterson, Tribal Attorney (jpatterson@nativelawgroup.com)
Sitara Federico, Manager of RTCR in Utah, (sfederico@utah.gov)

