

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8 1595 Wynkoop Street DENVER, CO 80202-1129 Phone 800-227-8917 http://www.epa.gov/region08

Ref: 8ENF-W

JAN 2 1 2014

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

Mr. Mark Sparks, Owner Cooper Subdivision Mobile Home Park P.O. Box 1316 Cody, WY 82414

Re: Administrative Order Docket No. **SDWA-08-2014-0006** PWS ID #WY5601450

Dear Mr. Sparks:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (Order) issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 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 you, as owner and/or operator of the Cooper Subdivision Mobile Home Park public water system (System), have violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 141 (Drinking Water Regulations).

The 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 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 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.

The Order requires you to notify the public of having violated the Drinking Water Regulations. Enclosed please find a public notice template explaining the public notice requirements in more detail.

To submit information or to request an informal conference with the EPA, please contact Kathelene Brainich at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-W), via email at <u>brainich.kathelene@epa.gov</u>, or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6481 or (303) 312-6481. 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, or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6554 or (303) 312-6554.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Arthro Palomares, Director

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

Enclosures

Order SBREFA Public Notice Template

cc: John Pinter, Operator, Cooper Sub MHP (via email jpzrods@tritel.net)
WY DEQ/DOH (via email)
Tina Artemis, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8 1595 WYNKOOP STREET DENVER, COLORADO 80202-1129 Phone 800-227-8917 http://www.epa.gov/region08

Ref: 8ENF-W

JAN 2 1 2014

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL LETTER</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

Park County Commissioners c/o Loren Grosskopf, Chair 1002 Sheridan Avenue Cody, WY 82414

Re: Notice of Safe Drinking Water Act Enforcement Action against Mark Sparks (Cooper Subdivision Mobile Home Park) PWS ID WY5601450

Dear Commissioners:

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

An Administrative Order (Order) is being issued to Mark Sparks, as owner and/or operator of the Cooper Subdivision Mobile Home Park Water System, located in Park County, directing him to comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The violations alleged in the Order include exceeding the maximum contaminant level for total coliform bacteria and failure to notify the EPA of the violations.

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 Kathelene Brainich at (303) 312-6481.

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

Enclosure

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8 2011, 11

)

2014 JAN 21 AM 11:47

| IN THE MATTER | OF: | |
|---------------|-----|--|
|---------------|-----|--|

Mark Sparks, Owner Cooper Subdivision Mobile Home Park Docket No. SDWA-08-2014-0006 CION VIII

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 (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g), as properly delegated to the undersigned officials.

2. Mark Sparks (Respondent) is an individual who owns and/or operates the Cooper Subdivision Mobile Home Park Water System (the System), which provides piped water to the public in Park County, Wyoming, for human consumption.

3. The System is supplied by a groundwater source consisting of one well. The System's water is untreated.

4. The System has approximately 50 service connections used by year-round residents and/or regularly serves an average of approximately 100 year-round residents. Therefore, the System is a "public water system" and a "community water system" as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 141.2 and section 1401 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f.

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).

VIOLATIONS

6. If two or more samples collected in any month from the System's water are positive for total coliform, then the System has violated the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total coliform bacteria. 40 C.F.R. § 141.63(a)(2). During the months of July and August 2013 and August 2011, two or more samples from the System were positive for total coliform, and, therefore, Respondent violated this requirement.

7. Respondent is required to notify the public of certain violations of the Drinking Water Regulations. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.201-141.211. Respondent failed to notify the public of the 2013 violations cited in paragraph 6, above, and, therefore, violated this requirement.

8. Respondent is required to report any coliform MCL violation to the EPA no later than the end of the next business day after learning of it. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(1). Respondent did not notify the EPA of the MCL violations cited in paragraph 6, above, and, therefore, violated this requirement.

Mark Sparks (Cooper Subdivision MHP) Page 2 of 4

9. 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 violation cited in paragraph 7, 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):

10. If Respondent's total coliform sample results exceed the MCL while this Order is in effect, Respondent shall, within 30 days after learning of this violation, provide the EPA with a compliance plan and schedule for the System to come into compliance with the MCL for total coliform as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63(a). The proposed schedule shall include specific milestone dates and a final compliance date to be within 3 months from the date of the EPA's approval of the schedule. The schedule must be approved by the EPA before construction or modifications can begin. The EPA's approval of Respondent's schedule does not substitute for any State of Wyoming approval of plans and specifications that may also be required before modifications may be made to the System.

11. The schedule required by paragraph 10, above, shall be incorporated into this Order as enforceable requirements upon written approval by the EPA.

12. Within 10 days after completing all tasks included in the schedule required by paragraph 10, above, Respondent shall notify the EPA of the project's completion.

13. Respondent shall achieve and maintain compliance with the total coliform MCL by the final date specified in the approved compliance schedule, or no later than 3 months after receipt of the EPA's approval of the schedule required by paragraph 10, above, whichever is earliest. Respondent shall meet that deadline even if the plan as approved does not achieve compliance. If the plan fails to achieve permanent compliance, the EPA may order further steps and/or seek penalties for noncompliance.

14. Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall notify the public of the 2013 violations cited in paragraph 6, above, following the instructions provided with the public notice templates provided to Respondent with this Order. Thereafter, following any future violation of the Drinking Water Regulations, Respondent shall comply with any applicable public notice provisions of 40 C.F.R. part 141, subpart Q. Within 10 days after providing public notice, Respondent shall submit a copy of the notice to the EPA.

Mark Sparks (Cooper Subdivision MHP) Page 3 of 4

15. Respondent shall report any violation of the Drinking Water Regulations to the EPA within 48 hours of the violation occurring, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b). However, if a different time period for reporting is specified in this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations, Respondent shall report within that different period.

16. If the System's water does not comply with the total coliform MCL in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63, Respondent shall report this violation to the EPA by the end of the business day after discovering the violation, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(1).

17. If the population or number of connections served by the System falls below 25 individuals or 15 connections, Respondent will notify the EPA in writing within 10 days.

18. This Order shall be binding on Respondent, assigns and heirs, and any person (e.g., employee, contractor or other agent) acting in concert with Respondent.

19. 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, no later than the date of such lease, sale, or other contract, provide a copy of this Order to the lessee, purchaser or contractor and, no later than 10 days thereafter, notify the EPA in writing of the lease, sale or other contract with such notification to include the name and contract information of the person who has leased, bought or contracted to operate the System. Respondent shall remain obligated to comply with this Order even if Respondent leases the System to another person or entity or hires another person or entity to operate the System.

20. 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, CO 80202-1129

GENERAL PROVISIONS

21. This Order shall not constitute a waiver, suspension or modification of any requirement of the Act or drinking water regulations. Issuance of this Order is not an election by the EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action.

22. 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.

23. 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).

Mark Sparks (Cooper Subdivision MHP) Page 4 of 4

24. This Order is effective upon receipt by Respondent and will continue to be in effect until closed by the EPA.

Issued: January 21, 2014.

and B

James H. Eppers, Supervisory Attorney Regulatory Enforcement Unit Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

Arturo Palomares, 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, including workshops, training sessions, hotlines, websites and guides, 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.

EPA's Small Business Websites

Small Business Environmental Homepage - www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org

Small Business Gateway - www.epa.gov/smallbusiness

EPA's Small Business Ombudsman - www.epa.gov/sbo or 1-800-368-5888

EPA's Compliance Assistance Homepage

www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance/ business.html

This page is a gateway to industry and statute-specific environmental resources, from extensive web-based information to hotlines and compliance assistance specialists.

EPA's Compliance Assistance Centers

www.assistancecenters.net

EPA's 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 or 1-734-995-4911

Education www.campuserc.org Food Processing www.fpeac.org

Healthcare www.hercenter.org

Local Government www.lgean.org

Metal Finishing www.nmfrc.org

Paints and Coatings www.paintcenter.org

Printed Wiring Board Manufacturing www.pwbrc.org

Printing www.pneac.org

Ports www.portcompliance.org

U.S. Border Compliance and Import/Export Issues www.bordercenter.org

Hotlines, Helplines and Clearinghouses www.epa.gov/epahome/hotline.htm

EPA sponsors many free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements. Some examples are: Antimicrobial Information Hotline info-antimicrobial@epa.gov or 1-703-308-6411

Clean Air Technology Center (CATC) Info-line www.epa.gov/ttn/catc or 1-919-541-0800

Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act www.epa.gov/superfund/resources/ infocenter/epcra.htm or 1-800-424-9346

EPA Imported Vehicles and Engines

Public Helpline www.epa.gov/otaq/imports or 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 www.nrc.uscg.mil or 1-800-424-8802

Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (PPIC) www.epa.gov/opptintr/ppic or 1-202-566-0799

Safe Drinking Water Hotline www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/index. html or 1-800-426-4791

Stratospheric Ozone Protection Hotline www.epa.gov/ozone or 1-800-296-1996

U. S. EPA Small Business Resources

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Hotline

tsca-hotline@epa.gov or 1-202-554-1404

Wetlands Information Helpline www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/wetline.html or 1-800-832-7828

State and Tribal Web-Based Resources

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)

www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org

State SBEAPs help small businesses and assistance providers understand environmental requirements and sustainable business practices through workshops, trainings and site visits. The website is a central point for sharing resources between EPA and states.

EPA's Tribal Compliance Assistance Center www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance/index.html

The Center provides material to Tribes on environmental stewardship and regulations that might apply to tribal government operations.

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/compliance/incentives/smallbusiness/index.html

This Policy offers small businesses special incentives to come into compliance voluntarily.

EPA's Audit Policy

www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/auditing/auditpolicy.html

The Policy provides incentives to all businesses that voluntarily discover, promptly disclose and expeditiously correct their noncompliance.

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), or go to their website at www. sba.gov/ombudsman.

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.

Template on Reverse

Since exceeding the total coliform bacteria maximum contaminant level is a Tier 2 violation, you must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but within 30 days after you learn of the violation [40 CFR 141.203(b)]. Persistent total coliform problems can be serious. Some states have more stringent requirements for coliform violations. Check with your primacy agency to make sure you meet all requirements. You must issue a repeat notice every three months for as long as the violation persists.

Community systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:

- Hand or direct delivery
- · Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Noncommunity systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition, both community and noncommunity systems must use another method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method [40 CFR 141.203(c)]. Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations. If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on your system's letterhead, if available.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for mailing, posting, or hand delivery. If you modify this notice, you must still include all required PN elements listed in 40 CFR 141.205(a) and leave the mandatory language unchanged (see below).

Mandatory Language

Mandatory language on health effects (from Appendix B to Subpart Q) must be included as written (with blanks filled in) and is presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

You must also include standard language to encourage the distribution of the public notice to all persons served, where applicable [40 CFR 141.205(d)]. This language is also presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

Description of the Violation

The description of the violation and the MCL vary depending on the number of samples you take. The following table should help you complete the second paragraph of the template.

| If You Take Less Than 40 Samples a Month | If You Take at Least 40 Samples a Month |
|--|---|
| State the number of samples testing positive for colifo standard is that no more than one sample per month positive. | |

Corrective Action

In your notice, describe corrective actions you are taking. If you know what is causing the coliform problem, explain this in the notice. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with total coliform violations. Depending on the corrective action you are taking, you can use one or more of the following statements, if appropriate, or develop your own text:

- We are disinfecting and flushing the water system.
- We are increasing sampling for coliform bacteria.
- · We are investigating the source of contamination.
- We are repairing the wellhead seal.
- · We are repairing the storage tank.
- · We will inform you when additional samples show no coliform bacteria.

After Issuing the Notice

Make sure to send a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notice requirements to your primacy agency within ten days after issuing the notice [40 CFR 141.31(d)]. It is a good idea to inform your consumers when the violation has been resolved. See Template 2-2 for a resolved notice template.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Tests Show Coliform Bacteria in COOPER SUBDIVISION MOBILE HOME PARK

Our water system violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We took samples for coliform bacteria during the months of July and August 2013 and more than one sample each month showed the presence of coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 1 sample per month may do so.

What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified within 24 hours. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. **Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.**

Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing. If we had, we would have notified you immediately. Sample results for September 2013 to present did not show the presence of total coliform bacteria.

What is being done?

[Describe corrective action]

For more information, please contact John Pinter at (307) 202-1260.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Certification

After posting this notice for a minimum of 7 days, enter the dates posted, sign below and send a copy to: EPA 1595 Wynkoop Street, Attn: 8ENF-W K. Brainich, Denver, CO 80202

| Dates posted from | to | Date mailed, hand, or direct delivered | |
|-------------------|----|--|--|
|-------------------|----|--|--|

Signature and title