



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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EPA REGION VIII
HEARING CLERK

FEB 06 2019

Ref: 8ENF-W-SDW

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Brian Black
Sloanes General Store
P.O. Box 158
Alcova, Wyoming 82620

Re: Administrative Order issued regarding Sloanes General Store Public Water System,
PWS ID #WY5601066, Docket No. **SDWA-08-2019-0008**

Dear Mr. Black:

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 Brian Black, as owner and/or operator of the Sloanes General Store Public Water System (System), has violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (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 (for example, any monitoring that may have been done but not submitted, updates to the number of connections and/or individuals served). If the EPA does not hear from you, the EPA will assume the information in the Order 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.

Please be aware that you are required to submit to the EPA a plan and schedule for bringing the System into compliance with the Drinking Water Regulations. The EPA's approval of your schedule does not substitute for any other approval that may be required by any other governmental entity for modifying the System. The EPA encourages you to contact any such governmental agency or agencies regarding any applicable approval requirements.

You are required to notify the public quarterly by completing a public notice (PN) until the nitrate maximum contaminant level violation is resolved. Please submit a copy of the completed PN to the EPA each quarter.

To submit information or request an informal conference with the EPA, please contact Christina Carballal at the above address (with the mailcode 8ENF-W-SDW), via email at carballal-broome.christina@epa.gov, 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, 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,



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

Enclosures

cc: WY DEQ/ DOH (via email)
Melissa Haniewicz, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk
Natrona County Commissioner (mmaines@natronacounty-wy.gov)
Kathy w/ WY DEQ, UIC Program (kathy.shreve@wyo.gov)

7. Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the EPA a proposed plan and schedule to bring the System into consistent compliance with the nitrate MCL in 40 C.F.R. § 141.62(b). The plan shall include proposed modifications to the System, estimated costs of the modifications, and a schedule for completion of the project and compliance with the nitrate MCL. The proposed schedule shall include specific milestone dates and a final compliance date (to be within 6 months of the date of the project start date). The schedule must be approved by the EPA before construction or modifications can begin.
8. The schedule required by paragraph 7, above, will be incorporated into this Order as an enforceable requirement upon written approval by the EPA.
9. Within 30 days after receipt of the EPA's approval of the schedule required by paragraph 7, above, Respondent shall begin to provide the EPA with quarterly reports on the progress made toward bringing the System into compliance with 40 C.F.R. § 141.62(b). Each quarterly report is due by the 10th day of the month following the end of the relevant quarter.
10. Within 10 days after completing all tasks included in the schedule required by paragraph 7 above, Respondent shall notify the EPA of the project's completion.
11. The System shall achieve and maintain compliance with the nitrate MCL by the final date specified in the EPA-approved schedule. If implementation of the plan fails to achieve permanent compliance, the EPA may order further steps and/or seek penalties for noncompliance.
12. 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.
13. This Order shall be binding on Respondent and his successors, assigns, and any person (e.g., employee, contractor or other agent) acting in concert with Respondent.
14. 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.

15. Respondent shall send all reporting and notifications required by this Order to the EPA via email to both:

R8DWU@epa.gov and Carballal-broome.christina@epa.gov

GENERAL PROVISIONS

16. 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.

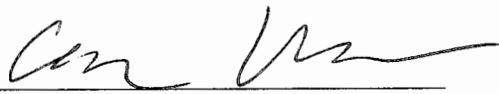
17. Violation of any part of this Order or the Drinking Water Regulations may subject Respondent to a civil penalty of up to \$55,907 (as adjusted for inflation) per day of violation. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3; 40 C.F.R. part 19; 81 Fed. Reg. 43091 (January 10, 2018).

18. Respondent may seek federal judicial review of this Order pursuant to section 1448(a) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300j-7(a).

Issued: February 6, 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-office-small-and-disadvantaged-business-utilization-osdbu

EPA's OSDBU 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-small-businesses/asbestos-small-business-ombudsman 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 state-specific 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.ccarcenter.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

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

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.