



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Drinking Water

June 15, 2016

Mr. Art Chianello, Water Resources Manager
City of Bakersfield – Water System No. 1510031
1000 Buena Vista Road
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Dear Mr. Chianello:

State Water Resources Control Board Notice Regarding Mandatory

Effective June 24, 2015, Senate Bill 88 (Statutes 2015, Chapter 27) added Sections 116680 – 116684 to California Health & Safety Code, addressing consolidation of public water systems.

Our records indicate that the water delivered by Lakeside School's public water system (System) contains arsenic at levels that exceed the maximum contaminant level established in state and federal regulations. Since approximately March 2009, the System has consistently failed to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water. It is our understanding that the School is outside of the City of Bakersfield (City) service boundaries but within the City's sphere of influence.

The Division issued a pre-consolidation letter dated November 10, 2015 (enclosed) encouraging the System and the City to work out a voluntary consolidation of their public water systems. In addition a meeting was held on January 27, 2016 with both City and the System representatives. The System is very anxious for consolidation or interconnection with the City. The City indicated that it would be necessary to evaluate the source water capacity of the City's system prior to evaluating the possibility of a consolidation or interconnection.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) strongly encourages the System and the City to work out voluntary consolidation of their public water systems. If a voluntary consolidation is not timely achieved, the State Water Board intends to take action pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 116682, subdivision (a) for consolidation of the System with the City's public water system. Please note that as used in the applicable statutory authority, the City is hereby identified as the potentially receiving water system and the System is identified as the potentially subsumed water system.

This letter serves as official notification that, pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 116682, subdivision (b) (6), the City, the potentially receiving water system, is directed to negotiate consolidation with Lakeside School, the potentially subsumed water system. The City is further directed to complete such negotiations and report the outcome to State Water Board Division of Drinking Water, Visalia District Office not later than six (6) months following the date of this letter.

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

The State Water Board acknowledges that consolidation is a complex process and stands ready to assist you so that you are successful in delivering safe, affordable and accessible drinking water to your neighboring community in a cost-effective manner. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 116682 subdivision (b) (6) (A), during the six month negotiation period, the State Water Board will provide technical assistance and work with the City and Lakeside School to develop an appropriate and necessary financing package. Technical assistance will be available from the State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and Division of Financial Assistance (DFA).

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mrs. Tricia Wathen, Visalia District Engineer for the State Water Board, DDW, at (559) 447-3398, or me at (559) 447-3132. For funding related questions, please contact the Division of Financial Assistance at (916) 341-5700.

Sincerely,



Carl L. Carlucci, P.E.
Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Central California Section
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Harvey L. Hall, Mayor, City of Bakersfield
Mr. Jason Meadors, Water Resources Director, City of Bakersfield
City Council, City of Bakersfield
Ms. Donna Fenton, Kern County Environmental Health Department
Ms. Rebecca Moore, Executive Officer, Kern County LAFCo
Mr. Ty Bryson, Superintendent Lakeside School



State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Drinking Water

November 10, 2015

Mr. Ty Bryson, Superintendent
Lakeside School - Water System No. 1502154
1435 Old River Road
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Dear Mr. Bryson:

Effective June 24, 2015, Senate Bill 88 (Statutes 2015, Chapter 27) added Sections 116680 – 116684 to California Health & Safety Code, addressing consolidation of public water systems.

Our records indicate that the water delivered by Lakeside School (System No. 1502154) public water system (System) contains arsenic at levels that exceed the maximum contaminant level established in state and federal regulations. Since approximately 2009, the System has consistently failed to provide safe drinking water due to the high arsenic levels. It is our understanding that the System's service area is outside the boundaries of City of Bakersfield (City) but within the City's sphere of influence. It is also our understanding that the proposed transmission main to the System's service area and distribution system is along Old River Road approximately 4 miles. In addition to Lakeside School, there are two other small public water systems along the proposed transmission pipe alignment on Old River Road that have water quality violations – Old River Water Company (1500096) and South Kern Mutual Water Company (1500344).

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) strongly encourages the System and the City to work out voluntary consolidation of their public water systems. However, if a voluntary consolidation is not timely achieved, the State Water Board may determine to exercise its authority pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 116682, subdivision (a) to achieve consolidation of System with the City's public water system.

The State Water Board acknowledges that consolidation is a complex process and stands ready to assist you so that you are successful in delivering safe, affordable and accessible drinking water to your community in a cost-effective manner. The State Water Board will provide technical assistance and work with the City and Lakeside School, Old River Water Company and South Kern Mutual Water Company to develop an appropriate and necessary financing package. Technical assistance will be available from the State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and Division of Financial Assistance (DFA).

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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In the near future, we will be contacting all the water systems to set up a meeting. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (559) 447-3300. For funding related questions, please contact Mr. Joel Greathouse at (559) 447-3300.

Sincerely,



Tricia A. Wathen P.E.
Senior Sanitary Engineer
Visalia District
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS

cc: Mr. Art Chianello
Water Resources Manager
City of Bakersfield
1000 Buena Vista Road.
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Ms. Sherry Settlemoir, President
South Kern Mutual Water Company
9612 Beam Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Ms. Donna Fenton, Kern County EHD
2700 M Street, Suite 300
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Ms. Taryn Rickel
Old River Mutual Water Company
6734 Charity Avenue, Bay #8
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Ms. Rebecca Moore
Executive Officer
Kern County LAFCo
5300 Lennox Ave, Suite 303
Bakersfield, CA 93309