

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

IN RE: TRUE ORGANIC PRODUCTS
Water System No. 1000584

TO: Ms. Irene Sanchez
True Organic Products
P.O. Box 124
Helm, CA 93624-0124

CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE
TOTAL COLIFORM MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL VIOLATION

JANUARY 2013

Issued on April 11, 2013

Section 116650, Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 104 of the California Health and Safety Code (CHSC), authorizes the issuance of a citation for failure to comply with a requirement of the California Safe Drinking Water Act, or any regulation, standard, permit, or order issued hereunder.

VIOLATION

The Drinking Water Field Operations Branch of the California Department of Public Health (hereinafter 'Department') hereby issues a Citation to True Organic Products (hereinafter 'Water System'), for failure to comply with Section 116555(a)(1) of the CHSC and Section 64426.1(b)(2) of Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR). Specifically, the Water System (mailing address: P.O. Box 124, Helm, CA 93624-0124) failed to comply with the total coliform Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for the month of January 2013.

1 The Water System operates under a domestic water supply permit issued by the Department
 2 in September of 2010. True Organic Products is a non-transient non-community water
 3 system serving a population of approximately forty (40) persons through four (4) service
 4 connections. The Water System is required to provide chlorine disinfection due to previous
 5 violations of the total coliform MCL.

6
 7 Section 64426.1(b)(2) specifies that a public water system collecting fewer than 40 samples
 8 per month is in violation of the total coliform MCL when more than one sample collected
 9 during any month is total coliform-positive.

10
 11 The Water System is required to collect a minimum of one (1) distribution system
 12 bacteriological sample per month. The bacteriological water analysis results submitted by
 13 the Water System reported the presence of total coliform bacteria in four (4) of six (6)
 14 samples collected by the Water System in January 2013. None of the positive samples
 15 showed the presence of fecal coliform or *E. coli* bacteria.

16
 17 The following table summarizes the bacteriological monitoring conducted during the
 18 months of January and February of 2013.

20 Collection Date	Number of Samples	Sample Type	Number TC positive	Number E. Coli positive
21 1/10/2013	1	Routine	1	0
22 1/17/2013	5	Repeat	3 (only distribution positive)	0
24 2/5/2013	5	Routine	0	0

1 Due to the above-mentioned total coliform positive samples, the Water System failed the
2 total coliform MCL for the month of January 2013. All water samples for coliform bacteria
3 collected during 2012 and 2013 (to date) are summarized in Attachment A.

4
5 The cause of the contamination is unknown since no specific source of contamination has
6 been reported. The initial positive routine sample collected on January 10, 2013 is reported
7 to have had a chlorine residual of 0.4 mg/L. Heterotrophic Plate Counts reported with the
8 repeat samples collected on January 17, 2013 ranged from 2,500 CFU/ml to 6,600 CFU/ml.
9 It is conceivable that the chlorine residual of 0.4 mg/L is not sufficient to provide adequate
10 disinfection considering the high concentrations of microorganisms detected in the water.

11
12 The five routine samples required the month following a month with one or more total
13 coliform-positive samples were collected on February 5, 2013, and were negative for total
14 coliform bacteria.

15
16 The Groundwater Rule adopted by the Department, effective August 18, 2011, requires the
17 collection of a sample for bacteriological evaluation from wells serving the system in
18 response to a coliform positive distribution sample. This requirement was met with the
19 round of repeat sampling conducted by the Water System on January 17, 2013. The well
20 sample did not show the presence of total or fecal coliform.

21
22 **NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

23 Section 64426.1(c) requires a public water system to notify the Department and the
24 consumers of the water system, when a violation of Section 64426.1(b)(1) through (4)
25 occurs. Notification to the Department shall be by the end of the business day on which the
26 violation has been determined. If the Department is closed, notification shall be within 24
27

1 hours of the determination. **The Department was not notified in accordance with the**
2 **above-referenced section.**

3
4 A Tier 2 Public Notice for violation of paragraph 64426.1(b)(2) shall be given pursuant to
5 Section 64463.4 and 64465. The Tier 2 Public Notice shall include the mandatory health
6 effects language from Appendix 64465-A for a total coliform MCL failure.

7
8 Section 64463.4 allows non-transient non-community water systems to give public notice
9 by posting the notice in conspicuous locations throughout the area served by the water
10 system and by the use of one or more of the following methods in order to reach persons not
11 likely to be reached by a public posting: publication in a local newspaper or newsletter
12 distributed to customers, e-mailing the public notice to water system customers, post the
13 public notice on the internet, or by delivery to each customer. The Tier 2 Public Notice is
14 included here as Attachment B.

15
16 The Water System shall post the public notice in conspicuous locations within the water
17 system. Section 116450(g) requires that upon receipt of notification from a public water
18 system, schools must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are
19 minors), residential rental property owners or managers (including nursing homes and care
20 facilities) must notify their tenants and business property owners, managers or operators
21 must notify employees of businesses located on the property. These secondary notification
22 requirements are included in the public notice.

23
24 Proof of notification is required. The Water System shall complete Attachment C and return
25 it to the Department by **May 10, 2013.**

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27

DIRECTIVES

The Water System is hereby directed to take the following actions:

1. By **April 25, 2013**, the True Organic Products water system shall provide public notification of the total coliform Maximum Contaminant Level failure for January 2013 by posting the notice in conspicuous locations throughout the area served by the water system.

By **May 10, 2013**, the Water System shall provide proof of public notification of the total coliform MCL violation by completing Attachment C and returning it to:

Betsy S. Lichti, Senior Sanitary Engineer
Department of Public Health
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch
265 W. Bullard Avenue, Suite 101
Fresno, CA 93704

2. A chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/L shall be maintained in all areas of the distribution system at all times.
3. The chlorine residual must be measured and reported at the same time and location(s) that the bacteriological sample(s) are collected. The residual(s) should be provided to the Department along with the bacteriological laboratory analysis.
4. The Water System shall notify the Department of any further violations of the total coliform MCL by the end of the business day on which the violation has been determined, or, if the Department is closed, within 24 hours of the determination.

1 5. By May 10, 2013, the Water System shall complete and submit the enclosed
2 “Positive Total Coliform Investigation” form to the Department that describes the
3 incident and all corrective actions taken, and the results of the investigation. The
4 appropriate investigation report is provided as Attachment D.

5

6

7

CIVIL PENALTIES

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

Date

4/11/13

Betsy S. Lichti, P.E.

Senior Sanitary Engineer, Fresno District
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS BRANCH



BSL/EL

Attachments:

Attachment A: Summary of Bacteriological Samples collected during 2012 to present

Attachment B: Public Notice Example

Attachment C: Proof of Notification Form

Attachment D: Investigation Report for Bacteriological MCL Failure form

Bacteriological Distribution Monitoring Report

1000584 True Organic Products

Distribution System Freq: 1/M

Sample Date	Time	Location	T Coli	E Coli	F Coli	Type	Cl2	Violation	Comment
1/9/2012	11:23	Kitchen Sink Faucet	<1.1			Routine	2.0+		
2/9/2012	11:37	Kitchen Sink Faucet	<1.1	A		Routine	2.0		
3/8/2012	12:23	Hose Bib Outside Office	<1.1	A		Routine	0.4		
4/3/2012	13:40	Kitchen Sink Faucet	<1.1	A		Routine	1.3		
5/1/2012	9:59	Kitchen Sink Faucet	<1.1	A		Routine			HPC = 880 CFU/mL
6/4/2012	10:45	Kitchen Sink Faucet	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			HPC = 640 CFU/mL
6/13/2012	8:00	Kitchen Sink Faucet	<1.1	<1.1		Repeat	0.2		
6/13/2012	8:05	Liquid Building HB	<1.1	<1.1		Repeat	0.2		
6/13/2012	8:10	Pressure Tank HB	<1.1	<1.1		Repeat	0.3		
6/13/2012	8:15	Well Hose Bib	<1.1	<1.1		Source Repeat			
7/5/2012	11:40	Well Sample only						MR1	5/25/12 EL 03-23-12E-104
8/3/2012	11:40	Kitchen Sink Faucet	2.2	<1.1		Routine	0.7		
8/6/2012	11:15	1 ROU Kitchen Sink	<1.1	<1.1	<1.1	Repeat	0.80		
8/6/2012	11:20	1 REPD Liquid Bldg	<1.1	<1.1	<1.1	Repeat	0.90		
8/6/2012	11:25	Pressure Tank Riser	<1.1	<1.1	<1.1	Repeat	1.1		
8/6/2012	11:30	1 REP Well	<1.1	<1.1	<1.1	Source Repeat	0.0		
9/25/2012	9:10	1 rou kitchen sink	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
10/1/2012	11:05	Pressure tank	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
10/1/2012	11:10	Pressure tank riser	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
10/1/2012	11:20	Kitchen sink	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
10/1/2012	11:30	office hb	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
10/1/2012	11:40	Liquid Building	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
11/5/2012	11:35	kitchen sink	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
11/8/2012	11:10	well	<1.1	<1.1		Source Repeat			
11/8/2012	11:15	office building	<1.1	<1.1		Repeat			
11/8/2012	11:20	lab room	<1.1	<1.1		Repeat			
11/8/2012	11:25	s. breakroom building	<1.1	<1.1		Repeat			
12/3/2012	13:01	office bulding	<1.1	<1.1		Routine	1.3		
12/3/2012	13:16	Building 15 min after Initial Routine	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
12/3/2012	13:18	pressure tank	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
12/3/2012	13:30	Lab Building	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
12/3/2012	13:33	Press. Tank after Intial Routine	<1.1	<1.1		Routine			
1/10/2013	11:18	Office Building	1.1	<1.1		Routine	0.4		
1/17/2013	10:02	Office Building HB	1.1	A		Repeat		MCL	HPC = 2500 CFU/ml
1/17/2013	10:10	Pressure Tank HB	<1.1	<1.1		Repeat			HPC = 5100 CFU/ml
1/17/2013	10:12	Office Bulidng HB	1.1	A		Repeat			HPC = 4900 CFU/ml
1/17/2013	10:14	Well	<1.1	<1.1		Source Repeat			
1/17/2013	10:20	Lab Building HB	1.1	<1.1		Repeat			HPC = 6600 CFU/ml
2/5/2013	10:12	1 ROU Office Building HB	<1.1	<1.1		Routine	0.4		
2/5/2013	10:15	2 ROU Lab Building HB	<1.1	<1.1		Routine	0.4		
2/5/2013	10:17	3 ROU So. Breakroom HB	<1.1	<1.1		Routine	0.3		
2/5/2013	10:27	4 ROU Office Building HB 15 min after initial routine	<1.1	<1.1		Routine	0.4		
2/5/2013	10:33	5 ROU - So. Breakroom HB 15 min after initial routine	<1.1	<1.1		Routine	0.3		

Violation Key

MCL	Exceeds the maximum contaminant level	MR5	Incorrect number of repeat samples as follow-up to a positive sample
MR1	No monthly sample for the report month	MR6	No source sample
MR2	No quarterly sample for the report month	MR7	No summary report submitted
MR3	Incorrect number of routine samples for the report month	MR8	Other comments and/or info
MR4	Did not collect 5 routine samples for previous month's positive sample	MR9	CI2 not reported