CALIFORNIA
Water Boards

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
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SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Drinking Water

April 4, 2016
Certified Mail/Return
7012 3460 0003 1113 0550

Central Gaither School
750 Palora Ave
Yuba City, CA 95993-9706

Attention: Thomas Butcher, Director of Maintenance

RE: Central Gaither School, Public Water System No. 5100150 – Citation No. 21-16C-011 for Exceedance of the Bacteriological Maximum Contaminant Level in March of 2016.

Enclosed is a citation issued to the Central Gaither School (Water System). The citation is being issued because the Water System failed to achieve the drinking water standard for total coliform bacteria during March of 2016. Please read this citation carefully. Public notification is required to inform consumers that the standard was not achieved during this time period.

Note that Section 116577 of the California Safe Drinking Water Act provides for the Division to be reimbursed by the Water System for costs incurred for preparing and issuing a citation. In accordance with Section 116577, the Water System will be billed for the preparation and issuance of this citation.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Paul Rowe at (530) 224-4866 or me at (530) 224-4861.

Sincerely,

R. Crenshaw

Reese B. Crenshaw, P.E.
Valley District Engineer
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch

Enclosures

Citation No. 21-16C-011

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

Public Water System: Central Gaither School

Water System No.: 5100150

To: Central Gaither School
Attn: Thomas Butcher, Director of Maintenance
750 Palora Ave
Yuba City, CA 95993-9706

Issued: April 4, 2016
VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE

With Title 22 California Code of Regulations

Section 64426.1(b)

Section 116650 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 (CHSC, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4, commencing with Section 116270), or any regulation, standard, permit, or order issued thereunder.

The State Water Resources Control Board (hereinafter "State Board"), acting by and through its Division of Drinking Water (hereinafter "Division") and the Deputy Director for the Division, hereby issues a citation to Central Gaither School for failure to comply with Section 64426.1(b), Title 22, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

APPLICABLE AUTHORITIES

Section 116650 of the CHSC states:

(a) If the Department determines that a public water system is in violation of this chapter or any regulation, permit, standard, citation, or order issued or adopted thereunder, the department may issue a citation to the public water system. The citation shall be served upon the public water system personally or by certified mail. Service shall be deemed effective as of the date of personal service or the date of receipt of the certified mail. If a person to whom a citation is directed refuses to accept delivery of the certified mail, the date of service shall be deemed to be the date of mailing.

(b) Each citation shall be in writing and shall describe the nature of the violation or violations, including a reference to the statutory provision, standard, order, citation, permit, or regulation alleged to have been violated.

(c) A citation may specify a date for elimination or correction of the condition constituting the violation.

(d) A citation may include the assessment of a penalty as specified in subdivision (e).

(e) The department may assess a penalty in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars ($1,000) per day for each day that a violation occurred, and for each day that a violation continues to occur. A separate penalty may be assessed for each violation.

Section 64426.1(b), Title 22, of the CCR states:

(b) A public water system is in violation of the total coliform maximum contaminant level (MCL) when any of the following occurs:

(1) For a public water system which collects at least 40 samples per month, more than 5.0 percent of the samples collected during any month are total coliform-positive; or

(2) For a public water system which collects fewer than 40 samples per month, more than one sample collected during any month is total coliform-positive; or

(3) Any repeat sample is fecal coliform-positive or E. coli-positive; or

(4) Any repeat sample following a fecal coliform-positive or E. coli-positive routine sample is total coliform-positive.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The Central Gaither School domestic water system (System) is classified as a nontransient noncommunity water system serving approximately 250 persons per day. In accordance with Section 64423 of Title 22, the System is required to collect one routine bacteriological sample per month, unless there was a positive bacteriological sample the previous month, in which case, five routine bacteriological samples are required. On March 15, 2016, the System collected a routine bacteriological sample from the distribution system. As a result, the sample showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. Consequently, four repeat samples were taken on March 17, 2016; all of which showed the presence of total coliform as well. The cause of the contamination is unknown. No samples discussed showed the presence of E. coli.

DETERMINATIONS

The Division has determined that the System violated Section 64426.1(b)(2), Title 22, of the CCR, in that more than one routine sample was positive for total coliform in the month of March 2016; thus exceeding the total coliform MCL.

DIRECTIVES

The System is hereby directed to take the following actions:

1. Comply with Section 64426.1, Title 22, of the CCR in all future monitoring periods.

2. **Within 30 days** of the issuance of this Citation, provide public notification in accordance with **Attachment 'A'**, to all persons served by the System of the

MCL violation as required by Section 64463.4 and Section 64465, Title 22, of the CCR.

3. Changes and/or modifications to Attachment A shall be not be made unless approved by the Division.

4. Complete and return **Attachment 'B'** "Certification of Completion of Public Notification" form **within 10 days** of giving public notice. A copy of the notice used to provide public notification shall be attached to the form.

The completed and signed copy of Attachment 'B' shall be submitted to the following address:

Reese B. Crenshaw, P. E.
Valley District Engineer
Drinking Water Field Operations
Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 101
Redding, CA 96002
(530) 224-4800

Nothing in this Citation relieves the System of its obligation to meet the requirements of Health and Safety Code, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4 (California Safe Drinking Water Act), or any regulation, permit, standard or order issued or adopted thereunder.

The Division reserves the right to make such modifications to this Citation, as it may deem necessary to protect public health and safety. Such modifications may be issued as amendments to this Citation and shall be effective upon issuance.

FURTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The California SDWA authorizes the State Board to: issue citation with assessment of administrative penalties to a public water system for violation or continued violation of the requirements of the California SDWA or any permit, regulation, permit or order issued or adopted thereunder including, but not limited to, failure to correct a violation identified in a citation or compliance order. The California SDWA also authorizes the State Board to take action to suspend or revoke a permit that has been issued to a public water system if the system has violated applicable law or regulations or has failed to comply with an order of the State Board; and to petition the superior court to take various enforcement measures against a public water system that has failed to comply with violates an order of the State Board. The State Board does not waive any further enforcement action by issuance of this citation.

PARTIES BOUND

This Citation shall apply to and be binding upon the System, its officers, directors, agents, employees, contractors, successors, and assignees.

SEVERABILITY

The directives of this Citation are severable, and the Water System shall comply with each and every provision thereof notwithstanding the effectiveness of any other provision.

R. Crenshaw 4/4/16

Reese B. Crenshaw, P.E., District Engineer
Valley District
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch

Date

Attachments:

'A' Public Notification Template
'B' Certification of Completion

Attachment A

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The Central Gaither Elementary School water system did not meet Bacteriological Drinking Water Standards in March 2016

Our water system violated the bacteriological drinking water standard for March 2016. As our consumers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. A routine sample taken on March 15, 2016, indicated the presence of coliform bacteria. In addition all four follow-up samples taken on March 17, 2016, also showed the presence of total coliform. The standard is that no more than one (1) sample per month may have the presence of total coliform.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.** This is not an emergency, If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.
- Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we test for total coliform bacteria in any sample, we also test to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find E. Coli bacteria in our testing.**
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

The cause of total coliform bacteria in the drinking water is unknown at this time. The drinking water system was disinfected and flushed over the weekend of March 18-19, 2016 and additional water samples were taken on March 28, 2016. Results from these samples confirmed that the water system is now free of total coliform bacteria.

For more information, please contact Thomas Butcher @ 530-822-5252

State Water System ID#: 5100150

Attachment B

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

This form, when completed and returned to the Division of Drinking Water (364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 101, Redding, CA 96002 or fax to 530-224-4844), serves as certification that public notification to water users was completed as required by the California Water Quality and Monitoring Regulations. Completing public notification and providing the Division with certification is important. Failure to do so will result in additional hourly time charges to your water utility and may result in a formal enforcement action with monetary penalties.

Public Water System Name Central Gaither School

Public Water System No. 5100150

Public notification for the March 2016 bacteriological failure was performed by the following method:

_____ Hand delivery to faculty and other staff served by the water system. Please indicate the date(s) the notice was hand delivered:_____

AND

_____ Mail, email, or hand delivery to parents of students. Please indicate the date(s) the notice was sent or delivered to parents: _____

I hereby certify that the above information is factual.

_____
Printed Name

_____
Signature

_____
Date