



RON CHAPMAN, MD, MPH
Director & State Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

May 17, 2013
Certified Mail/Return
Receipt Requested
7010 1060 0000 5278 6711

Linda County Water District
1280 Scales Street
Marysville, CA 95901

Attention: Douglas Lofton, Manager

**Subject: Public Water System No. 5810002 – Citation No. 21-13C-004
March 2013 Exceedance of the Bacteriological Maximum Contaminant Level**

Enclosed is a citation issued to the Linda County Water District (District). The citation is being issued because the District failed to comply with the drinking water standard for total coliform bacteria during March 2013. Please be aware that the Directives section of the citation contains required actions that must be taken by the District to return to compliance.

Note that Section 116577 of the California Safe Drinking Water Act provides for our Department to be reimbursed by the public water system for costs incurred for preparing and issuing a citation to that system. In accordance with Section 116577, the District will be billed for the preparation and issuance of this citation. Our current costs are approximately \$126 per hour. The estimated time to prepare the citation is one hour.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call staff engineer Ray Bruun at (530) 224-3252 or me at (530) 224-4800.

Reese B. Crenshaw, P.E.
Valley District Engineer
DRINKING WATER FIELD
OPERATIONS BRANCH

Enclosure

cc: Yuba County Environmental Health Department

1 **Citation No. 021-13C-004**

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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7 **Public Water System:** Linda County Water District

8 **Water System No.:** 5810002

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10 **To:** Linda County Water District

11 Attention: Douglas Lofton, Manager

12 1280 Scales Street

13 Marysville, CA 95901

14

15 **Issued:** May 17, 2013

16 VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

17

18 **CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE**

19 **With Title 22 California Code of Regulations**

20 **Section 64426.1(b)**

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22 Section 116650 of the California Health and Safety Code (CHSC) authorizes the
23 issuance of a citation for failure to comply with a requirement of the California Safe
24 Drinking Water Act (CHSC, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4, commencing with
25 Section 116270), or any regulation, standard, permit, or order issued thereunder.

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1 The Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management of the California
2 Department of Public Health (Department) hereby issues a citation to the Linda
3 County Water District (District) for failure to comply with Section 64426.1(b), Title 22,
4 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

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6 **APPLICABLE AUTHORITIES**

7 Section 116650 of the CHSC states in relevant part:

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

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

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24 (c) A citation may specify a date for elimination or correction of the
25 condition constituting the violation.
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(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 in relevant part:

(b) A public water system is in violation of the total coliform MCL [maximum contaminant level] 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

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

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The Linda County Water District (District) domestic water system is classified as a community water system serving approximately 10,000 year-round residents through 4,185 service connections. As such, the District is required to collect three (3) routine bacteriological samples per week according to Section 64423 of Title 22. On March 13, 2012, and again on March 20, 2013, the District collected a routine sample from the distribution system that contained total coliform bacteria. In each instance, repeat samples were negative for coliform bacteria. Sample results were inconclusive as to cause (it is very rare for the District to have routine positive total coliform results), though inclement weather may have contaminated the samples. In April 2013, 16 routine samples were collected. All were absent for coliform bacteria. None of the March 2013 samples that contained total coliform bacteria tested positive for E. coli.

DETERMINATIONS

The Department has determined that the District violated Section 64426.1(b)(2), Title 22, of the CCR, in that the District exceeded the total coliform MCL during the month of March 2013.

DIRECTIVES

The District is hereby directed to take the following actions:

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

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2. By no later than May 31, 2013, notify all persons served by the District of the MCL violation as required by Section 64463.4 and Section 64465, Title 22, of the CCR. Notification shall be completed in accordance with each of the following:

- a. Mail or direct delivery of the notice (a template with instructions was emailed to the District on April 17, 2013) to each customer receiving a bill including those that provide their drinking water to others (e.g., schools or school systems, apartment building owners, or large private employers), and other service connections to which water is delivered by the District.
- b. Provide the notice, emailed previously, to customers using one or more of the following methods to reach persons not likely to be reached by a public posting:
 - i. Publication in a local newspaper,
 - ii. Posting in conspicuous public places within the service area,
 - iii. Posting on the Internet, or
 - iv. Delivery to community organizations.

Substantive changes and/or modifications to the notice emailed previously shall be not be made unless approved by the Department.

3. Complete and return a completed and signed "Certification of Completion of Public Notification" form (emailed to the District on April 17, 2013) within 10

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days of giving public notice. A copy of the notice used to provide public notification shall be attached to the form.

4. Do not collect bacteriological samples during inclement weather.

All documents required by this Citation to be submitted to the Department shall be submitted to the following address:

Reese B. Crenshaw, P. E.
Valley District Engineer
Drinking Water Field Operations
Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management
Department of Public Health
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 101
Redding, CA 96002
(530) 224-4800

Nothing in this Citation relieves the District 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 Department reserves the right to make such modifications to this Citation, as it deems 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

1 Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4, (commencing with section 116270) of the California
2 Health and Safety Code authorizes the Department to: issue additional citations with
3 assessment of penalties if the District continues to fail to correct a violation identified
4 in a citation; take action to suspend or revoke a permit that has been issued to a
5 public water system if the system has violated applicable law or regulations or has
6 failed to comply with orders of the Department; and petition the superior court to take
7 various enforcement measures against a public water system that has failed to
8 comply with orders of the Department. The Department does not waive any further
9 enforcement action by issuance of this Citation.

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PARTIES BOUND

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

SEVERABILITY

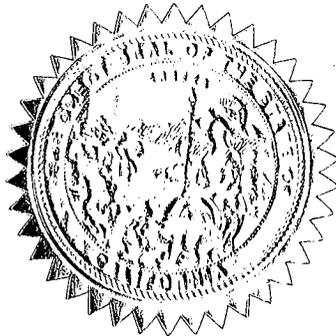
The directives of this Citation are severable, and the District shall comply with each and every provision thereof notwithstanding the effectiveness of any other provision.

R. Crenshaw

5/17/13

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

Date



CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

This form when completed and returned to the Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management (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 Department 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 Linda County Water District

Public Water System No. 5810002

Public notification for the March 2013 bacteriological failure was performed by the following method(s):

(CHECK AND COMPLETE ONLY THOSE THAT APPLY)

The notice was published in the local newspaper on _____. A copy of the newspaper notice is attached.

The notice was mailed to users on 5/17/13. A copy of the notice is attached.

The notice hand delivered to water customers on _____. A copy of the notice is attached.

The attached notice was posted in the following conspicuous places:

El Chica Produce, 1822 N. Beale Road, Marysville, CA 95901

Cloverleaf Market, 5780 Feather River Blvd., Linda, CA 95961

Linda County Water District, 1280 Scales Avenue, Marysville, CA 95901

For this method, provide the date (or dates) that the notice was posted 5/17/13.

I hereby certify that the above information is factual.

Wendi Jellsey
Printed Name


Signature

5/17/13
Date

Linda County Water District

1280 Scales Avenue • Marysville, CA 95901

Telephone (530) 743-2043

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.

Linda County Water District Has Levels of Coliform Bacteria Above the Drinking Water Standard

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

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. We took 22 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during March 2013, 2 (two) of our samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 1 (one) sample per month, may do so.

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. 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 system's 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, and further testing shows that this problem has been resolved.**
- 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.

For more information, please contact Douglas Lofton at (530) 743-2043 or 1280 Scales Avenue, Marysville, CA 95901.

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 public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- **SCHOOLS:** Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS** (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- **BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS:** Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by Linda Country Water District.

State Water System ID#: 5810002. Date distributed: 5/31/13.