March 8, 2019

System No. 5410015

Mr. Tim Doyle, Water Utility Manager
City of Tulare
3981 South K Street
Tulare, CA 93274

**CITATION NO. 03-24-19C-027**
**NITRATE MONITORING VIOLATION**
**FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2018**

Enclosed is Citation No. 03-24-19C-027 (hereinafter "Citation"), issued to the City of Tulare (hereinafter "Water System"). **Please note there are legally enforceable deadlines associated with this Citation starting on page 4 of the Citation.**

The Water System will be billed at the State Water Resources Control Board's (hereinafter "State Water Board"), hourly rate for the time spent on issuing this Citation. California Health and Safety Code, Section 116577, provides that a public water system must reimburse the State Water Board for actual costs incurred by the State Water Board for specified enforcement actions, including but not limited to, preparing, issuing and monitoring compliance with a citation. At this time, the State Water Board has spent approximately one (1) hour on enforcement activities associated with this violation.

The Water System will receive a bill sent from the State Water Board in August of the next fiscal year. This bill will contain fees for any enforcement time spent on the Water System for the current fiscal year.

Any person who is aggrieved by a citation, order or decision issued by the Deputy Director of the Division of Drinking Water under Article 8 (commencing with Health and Safety Code, Section 116625) or Article 9 (commencing with Health and Safety Code, Section 116650), of the Safe Drinking Water Act (Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 104, of the Health and Safety Code), may file a petition with the State Water Board for reconsideration of the citation, order or decision. **Appendix 1** to the enclosed Citation contains the relevant statutory provisions for filing a petition for reconsideration (Health and Safety Code, Section 116701).

Petitions must be received by the State Water Board within 30 days of the issuance of the citation, order or decision by the Deputy Director. The date of issuance is the date when the Division of Drinking Water mails a copy of the citation, order or decision. If the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition is due the following business day by 5:00 p.m.

Information regarding filing petitions may be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/programs/petitions/index.shtml

Within 10 days of receipt of this Citation, the Water System shall submit a written response to the State Water Board indicating its willingness to comply with the directives of this Citation.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Tulare District staff at (559) 447-3300 or by email at dwpdist24@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Chad Fischer, P.E.
Senior Sanitary Engineer, Tulare District
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS

Certified Mail No. 7018 0040 0000 0446 1447

cc: Tulare County Environmental Health Department

03_24_19C_027_5410015_3A

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

**Name of Public Water System:** City of Tulare

**Water System No:** 5410015

**Attention**: Mr. Tim Doyle, Water Utility Manager
3981 South K Street
Tulare, CA 93274

**Issued**: March 8, 2019

**CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH**
**CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE, SECTION 116555(a)(1) AND**
**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 22, SECTION 64432.1(a)**

**NITRATE MONITORING VIOLATION**
**CALENDAR YEAR 2018**

The California Health and Safety Code (hereinafter "CHSC"), Section 116650 authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (hereinafter "State Water Board"), to issue a citation to a public water system when the State Water Board determines that the public water system has violated or is violating the California Safe Drinking Water Act (hereinafter "California SDWA"), (CHSC, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4, commencing with

Section 116270), or any regulation, standard, permit, or order issued or adopted thereunder.

The State Water Board, acting by and through its Division of Drinking Water (hereinafter "Division"), and the Deputy Director for the Division, hereby issues Citation No. 03-24-19C-027 (hereinafter "Citation"), pursuant to Section 116650 of the CHSC to the City of Tulare (hereinafter "Water System"), for violation of CHSC, Section 116555(a)(1) and California Code of Regulations (hereinafter "CCR"), Title 22, Section 64432.1(a).

A copy of the applicable statutes and regulations are included in Appendix 1, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

The Water System is classified as a community public water system with a population of 63,837, serving 18,524 connections. The Water System operates under Domestic Water Supply Permit Amendment No. 03-24-18PA-012 issued by the State Water Board on July 17, 2018.

CHSC, Section 116555(a)(1) requires all public water systems to comply with primary drinking water standards as defined in CHSC, Section 116275(c). Primary drinking water standards include maximum levels of contaminants and the monitoring and reporting requirements as specified in regulations adopted by the State Water Board that pertain to maximum contaminant levels.

Pursuant to CCR, Title 22, Section 64432.1(a), the Water System is required to collect one sample annually for nitrate testing from each source. During

the 2018 compliance period, the Water System failed to collect a nitrate sample from Well 08 (Primary Station Code 5410015-008).

## DETERMINATION

The State Water Board has determined that the Water System has failed to comply with primary drinking water standards pursuant to CHSC, Section 116555(a)(1) and nitrate monitoring requirements pursuant to CCR, Title 22, Sections 64432.1(a).

## DIRECTIVES

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

1. On or before **April 10, 2019,** notify all persons served by the Water System of the violation of CCR, Title 22, Section 64432.1(a), in conformance with Sections 64463.4(b) and (c) and 64465. Copies of Sections 64463.4 and 64465 are included in Appendix 1. Appendix 2: Notification Template shall be used to fulfill this Directive unless otherwise approved by the State Water Board. The notification shall be completed in accordance with the following:

    - By mail or direct delivery of the Public Notification to each customer served by the water system and;
    - By one of the following secondary methods to reach persons not likely to be reached by mail or direct delivery;

    - By publication in a local newspaper, by delivery to community organizations or by posting in conspicuous public places served by the water system or on the internet. If the water

system opts to issue the notice via internet website, the public notice shall remain posted for a minimum of seven (7) consecutive days.

- Section 64463.7 allows the Water System to utilize the 2018 Consumer Confidence Report to meet the requirement of notification within a one-year period. In addition to the required information for the Consumer Confidence Report, the Water System shall include the following language in the Consumer Confidence Report: "We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the calendar year 2018, we did not monitor for nitrate from Well 08 and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time."

  The Water System must determine which option will be used to conduct the secondary distribution of the notice and notify the State Water Board of their decision no later than **March 25, 2019.**

2. Complete Appendix 3: Compliance Certification Form. Submit it together with a copy of the public notification required by Directive 1 to the State Water Board on or before **April 10, 2019.**

3. The Water System shall ensure that monitoring is conducted annually for nitrate from all its active sources and that the laboratory, which

conducts the analysis, submits the analytical results electronically by a State Water Board approved method no later than the 10th day of the month following completion of the analyses.

4. On or before **April 10, 2019,** complete and return to the State Water Board the "Notification of Receipt" form attached to this Citation as Appendix 4. Completion of this form confirms that the Water System has received this Citation and understands that it contains legally enforceable directives(s) with due dates.

All submittals required by this Citation, with exception of analytical results, shall be electronically submitted to the State Water Board at the following address. The subject line for all electronic submittals corresponding to this Citation shall include the following information: Water System name and number, citation number and title of the document being submitted.

Chad Fischer, P.E.
Dwpdist24@waterboards.ca.gov

The State Water Board reserves the right to make 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.

Nothing in this Citation relieves the Water System of its obligation to meet the requirements of the California SDWA (CHSC, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4, commencing with Section 116270), or any regulation, standard, permit or order issued or adopted thereunder.

## PARTIES BOUND

This Citation shall apply to and be binding upon the Water System, its owners, shareholders, 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 provision.

## FURTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The California SDWA authorizes the State Water Board to: issue a citation or order with assessment of administrative penalties to a public water system for violation or continued violation of the requirements of the California SDWA or any regulation, permit, standard, citation, 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 Water Board to take action to suspend or revoke a permit that has been issued to a public water system if the public water system has violated applicable law or regulations or has failed to comply with an order of the State Water Board, and to petition the superior court to take various enforcement measures against a public water system that has failed to comply with an order of the State Water Board. The State Water Board does not waive any further enforcement action by issuance of this Citation.

3/8/19

Chad Fischer, P.E.
Senior Sanitary Engineer, Tulare District
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS

Date

Appendices [4]:

1. Applicable Statutes and Regulations
2. Notification Template
3. Compliance Certification Form
4. Notification of Receipt Form

Certified Mail No. 7018 0040 0000 0446 1447

# APPENDIX 1. APPLICABLE STATUTES AND REGULATIONS FOR CITATION NO. 03-24-19C-027
## Nitrate Monitoring Violation

*NOTE: The following language is provided for the convenience of the recipient, and cannot be relied upon as the State of California's representation of the law. The published codes are the only official representation of the law. Regulations related to drinking water are in Titles 22 and 17 of the California Code of Regulations. Statutes related to drinking water are in the Health & Safety Code, the Water Code, and other codes.*

## California Health and Safety Code (CHSC):

**Section 116271. Transition of CDPH duties to State Board states in relevant part**

(a) The state board succeeds to and is vested with all of the authority, duties, powers, purposes, functions, responsibilities, and jurisdiction of the State Department of Public Health, its predecessors, and its director for purposes of all of the following:

(1) The Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Act (Article 3 (commencing with Section 100825) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 101).

(2) Article 3 (commencing with Section 106875) of Chapter 4 of Part 1.

(3) Article 1 (commencing with Section 115825) of Chapter 5 of Part 10.

(4) This chapter and the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Law of 1997 (Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 116760)).

(5) Article 2 (commencing with Section 116800), Article 3 (commencing with Section 116825), and Article 4 (commencing with Section 116875) of Chapter 5.

(6) Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 116975).

(7) The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Division 43 (commencing with Section 75001) of the Public Resources Code).

(8) The Water Recycling Law (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 13500) of Division 7 of the Water Code).

(9) Chapter 7.3 (commencing with Section 13560) of Division 7 of the Water Code.

(10) The California Safe Drinking Water Bond Law of 1976 (Chapter 10.5 (commencing with Section 13850) of Division 7 of the Water Code).

(11) Wholesale Regional Water System Security and Reliability Act (Division 20.5 (commencing with Section 73500) of the Water Code).

(12) Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Division 26.5 (commencing with Section 79500) of the Water Code).

(b) The state board shall maintain a drinking water program and carry out the duties, responsibilities, and functions described in this section. Statutory reference to "department," "state department," or "director" regarding a function transferred to the state board shall refer to the state board. This section does not impair the authority of a local health officer to enforce this chapter or a county's election not to enforce this chapter, as provided in Section 116500...

(k)

(1) The state board shall appoint a deputy director who reports to the executive director to oversee the issuance and enforcement of public water system permits and other duties as appropriate. The deputy director shall have public health expertise.

(2) The deputy director is delegated the state board's authority to provide notice, approve notice content, approve emergency notification plans, and take other action pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 116450), to issue, renew, reissue, revise, amend, or deny any public water system permits pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 116525), to suspend or revoke any public water system permit pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 116625), and to issue citations, assess penalties, or issue orders pursuant to Article 9 (commencing with Section 116650). Decisions and actions of the deputy director taken pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 116450) or Article 7 (commencing with Section 116525) are deemed decisions and actions taken by the state board, but are not subject to reconsideration by the state board except as provided in Section 116540. Decisions and actions of the deputy director taken pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 116625) and Article 9 (commencing with Section 116650) are deemed decisions and actions taken by the state board, but any aggrieved person may petition the state board for reconsideration of the decision or action. This subdivision is not a limitation on the state board's authority to delegate any other powers and duties.

**Section 116275. Definitions states in relevant part:**

(c) "Primary drinking water standards" means:

(1) Maximum levels of contaminants that, in the judgment of the state board, may have an adverse effect on the health of persons.

(2) Specific treatment techniques adopted by the state board in lieu of maximum contaminant levels pursuant to subdivision (j) of Section 116365.

(3) The monitoring and reporting requirements as specified in regulations adopted by the state board that pertain to maximum contaminant levels.

**Section 116555. Operational requirements states in relevant part:**

(a) Any person who owns a public water system shall ensure that the system does all of the following:

(1) Complies with primary and secondary drinking water standards.

(2) Will not be subject to backflow under normal operating conditions.

(3) Provides a reliable and adequate supply of pure, wholesome, healthful, and potable water.

**Section 116577. Enforcement fee states:**

(a) Each public water system shall reimburse the state board for actual costs incurred by the state board for any of the following enforcement activities related to that water system:

(1) Preparing, issuing, and monitoring compliance with, an order or a citation.

(2) Preparing and issuing public notification.

(3) Conducting a hearing pursuant to Section 116625.

(b) The state board shall submit an invoice for these enforcement costs to the public water system that requires payment before September 1 of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the costs were incurred. The invoice shall indicate the total hours expended, the reasons for the expenditure, and the hourly cost rate of the state board. The costs set forth in the invoice shall not exceed the total actual costs to the state board of enforcement activities specified in this section.

(c) Notwithstanding the reimbursement of enforcement costs of the local primacy agency pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 116595 by a public water system under the jurisdiction of the local primacy agency, a public water system shall also reimburse enforcement costs, if any, incurred by the state board pursuant to this section.

(d) "Enforcement costs," as used in this section, does not include "litigation costs" pursuant to Section 116585.

(e) The state board shall not be entitled to enforcement costs pursuant to this section if a court determines that enforcement activities were in error.

(f) Payment of the invoice shall be made within 90 days of the date of the invoice. Failure to pay the invoice within 90 days shall result in a 10-percent late penalty that shall be paid in addition to the invoiced amount.

(g) The state board may, at its sole discretion, waive payment by a public water system of all or any part of the invoice or penalty.

**Section 116625. Revocation and suspension of permits states:**

(a) The state board, after providing notice to the permittee and opportunity for a hearing, may suspend or revoke any permit issued pursuant to this chapter if the state board determines pursuant to the hearing that the permittee is not complying with the permit, this chapter, or any regulation, standard, or order issued or adopted thereunder, or that the permittee has made a false statement or representation on any application, record, or report maintained or submitted for purposes of compliance with this chapter. If the permittee does not request a hearing within the period specified in the notice, the state board may suspend or revoke the permit without a hearing. If the permittee submits a timely request for a hearing, the hearing shall be before the state board or a member of the state board, in accordance with Section 183 of the Water Code and the rules for adjudicative proceedings adopted under Section 185 of the Water Code. If the permit at issue has been temporarily suspended pursuant to subdivision (b), the notice shall be provided within 15 days of the effective date of the temporary suspension order. The commencement of the hearing under this subdivision shall be as soon as practicable, but no later than 60 days after the effective date of the temporary suspension order, unless the state board grants an extension of the 60 day period upon request of the permittee.

(b) The state board may temporarily suspend any permit issued pursuant to this chapter before any hearing when the action is necessary to prevent an imminent or substantial danger to health. The state board shall notify the permittee of the temporary suspension and the effective date of the temporary suspension and, at the same time, notify the permittee that a hearing has been scheduled. The hearing shall be held as soon as possible, but not later than 15 days after the effective date of the temporary suspension unless the state board grants an extension of the 15 day period upon request of the permittee, and shall deal only with the issue of whether the temporary suspension shall remain in place pending a hearing under subdivision (a). The hearing shall be conducted under the rules for adjudicative proceedings adopted by the state board under Section 185 of the Water Code. The temporary suspension shall remain in effect until the hearing under this subdivision is completed and the state board has made a final determination on the temporary suspension, which shall be made within 15 days after the completion of the hearing unless the state board grants an extension of the 15 day period upon request of the permittee. If the determination is not transmitted within 15 days after the hearing is completed, or any extension of this period requested by the permittee, the temporary suspension shall be of no further effect. Dissolution of the temporary suspension does not deprive the state board of jurisdiction to proceed with a hearing on the merits under subdivision (a).

**Section 116650. Citations states**:

(a) If the state board 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 state board 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 state board 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 and shall be in addition to any liability or penalty imposed under any other law.

**Section 116701. Petitions to Orders and Decisions states**:

(a)

(1) Within 30 days of issuance of an order or decision under authority delegated to an officer or employee of the state board under Article 8 (commencing with Section 116625) or Article 9 (commencing with Section 116650), an aggrieved person may petition the state board for reconsideration.

(2) Within 30 days of issuance of an order or decision under authority delegated to an officer or employee of the state board under Section 116540, the applicant may petition the state board for reconsideration.

(3) Within 30 days of final action by an officer or employee of the state board acting under delegated authority, the owner of a laboratory that was the subject of the final action may petition the state board for reconsideration of any of the following actions:

(A) Denial of an application for certification or accreditation under Section 100855.

(B) Issuance of an order directing compliance under Section 100875.

(C) Issuance of a citation under Section 100880.

(D) Assessment of a penalty under subdivision (e) of Section 100880.

(b) The petition shall include the name and address of the petitioner, a copy of the order or decision for which the petitioner seeks reconsideration, identification of the reason the petitioner alleges the issuance of the order was inappropriate or improper, the specific action the petitioner requests, and other information as the state board may prescribe. The petition shall be accompanied by a statement of points and authorities of the legal issues raised by the petition.

(c) The evidence before the state board shall consist of the record before the officer or employee who issued the order or decision and any other relevant evidence that, in the judgment of the state board, should be considered to implement the policies of this chapter. The state board may, in its discretion, hold a hearing for receipt of additional evidence.

(d) The state board may refuse to reconsider the order or decision if the petition fails to raise substantial issues that are appropriate for review, may deny the petition upon a determination that the issuance of the order or decision was appropriate and proper, may set aside or modify the order or decision, or take other appropriate action. The state board's action pursuant to this subdivision shall constitute the state board's completion of its reconsideration.

(e) The state board, upon notice and hearing, if a hearing is held, may stay in whole or in part the effect of the order or decision subject to the petition for reconsideration.

(f) If an order or decision is subject to reconsideration under this section, the filing of a petition for reconsideration is an administrative remedy that must be exhausted before filing a petition for writ of mandate under Section 100920.5 or 116700.

## California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22:

**Section 64431. Maximum Contaminant Levels - Inorganic Chemicals states:**

Public water systems shall comply with the primary MCLs in table 64431-A as specified in this article.

**Table 64431-A**
**Maximum Contaminant Levels**
**Inorganic Chemicals**

| *Chemical* | *Maximum Contaminant Level, mg/L* |
|---|---|
| Aluminum | 1. |
| Antimony | 0.006 |
| Arsenic | 0.010 |
| Asbestos | 7 MFL* |
| Barium | 1. |
| Beryllium | 0.004 |
| Cadmium | 0.005 |
| Chromium | 0.05 |
| Cyanide | 0.15 |
| Fluoride | 2.0 |
| Mercury | 0.002 |
| Nickel | 0.1 |
| Nitrate (as nitrogen) | 10. |
| Nitrate+Nitrite (sum as | 10. |

| | |
|---|---|
| nitrogen) | |
| Nitrite (as nitrogen) | 1. |
| Perchlorate | 0.006 |
| Selenium | 0.05 |
| Thallium | 0.002 |

* MFL=million fibers per liter; MCL for fibers exceeding 10 µm in length.

**Section 64432. Monitoring and Compliance – Inorganic Chemicals states:**

(a) All public water systems shall monitor to determine compliance with the nitrate and nitrite MCLs in table 64431-A, pursuant to subsections (d) through (f) and Section 64432.1. All community and nontransient-noncommunity water systems shall monitor to determine compliance with the perchlorate MCL, pursuant to subsections (d), (e), and (l), and section 64432.3. All community and nontransient-noncommunity water systems shall also monitor to determine compliance with the other MCLs in table 64431-A, pursuant to subsections (b) through (n) and, for asbestos, section 64432.2. Monitoring shall be conducted in the year designated by the State Board of each compliance period beginning with the compliance period starting January 1, 1993.

(b) Unless directed otherwise by the State Board, each community and nontransient-noncommunity water system shall initiate monitoring for an inorganic chemical within six months following the effective date of the regulation establishing the MCL for the chemical and the addition of the chemical to table 64431-A. If otherwise performed in accordance with this section, groundwater monitoring for an inorganic chemical performed no more than two years prior to the effective date of the regulation establishing the MCL may be used to satisfy the requirement for initiating monitoring within six months following such effective date.

(c) Unless more frequent monitoring is required pursuant to this Chapter, the frequency of monitoring for the inorganic chemicals listed in table 64431-A, except for asbestos, nitrate/nitrite, and perchlorate, shall be as follows:

(1) Each compliance period, all community and nontransient-noncommunity systems using groundwater shall monitor once during the year designated by the State Board. The State Board will designate the year based on historical monitoring frequency and laboratory capacity. All community and nontransient-noncommunity systems using approved surface water shall monitor annually. All systems monitoring at distribution entry points which have combined surface and groundwater sources shall monitor annually.

(2) Quarterly samples shall be collected and analyzed for any chemical if analyses of such samples indicate a continuous or persistent trend toward higher levels of that chemical, based on an evaluation of previous data.

(d) For the purposes of sections 64432, 64432.1, 64432.2, and 64432.3, detection shall be defined by the detection limits for purposes of reporting (DLRs) in table 64432-A.

**Table 64432-A**
**Detection Limits for Purposes of Reporting (DLRs) for Regulated Inorganic Chemicals**

| *Chemical* | *Detection Limit for Purposes of Reporting (DLR) (mg/L)* |
|---|---|
| Aluminum | 0.05 |
| Antimony | 0.006 |
| Arsenic | 0.002 |
| Asbestos | 0.2 MFL>10um* |
| Barium | 0.1 |
| Beryllium | 0.001 |
| Cadmium | 0.001 |
| Chromium | 0.01 |
| Cyanide | 0.1 |
| Fluoride | 0.1 |
| Mercury | 0.001 |
| Nickel | 0.01 |
| Nitrate (as nitrogen) | 0.4 |
| Nitrite (as nitrogen) | 0.4 |
| Perchlorate | 0.004 |
| Selenium | 0.005 |
| Thallium | 0.001 |

* MFL=million fibers per liter; DLR for fibers exceeding 10 um in length.

(e) Samples shall be collected from each water source or a supplier may collect a minimum of one sample at every entry point to the distribution system which is representative of each source after treatment. The system shall collect each sample at the same sampling site, unless a change is approved by the State Board.

(f) A water system may request approval from the State Board to composite samples from up to five sampling sites, provided that the number of sites to be composited is less than the ratio of the MCL to the DLR. Approval will be based on a review of three years of historical data, well construction and aquifer information for groundwater, and intake location, similarity of sources, and watershed characteristics for surface water. Compositing shall be done in the laboratory.

(1) Systems serving more than 3,300 persons shall composite only from sampling sites within a single system. Systems serving 3,300 persons or less may composite among different systems up to the 5-sample limit.

(2) If any inorganic chemical is detected in the composite sample at a level equal to or greater than one fifth of the MCL, a follow-up sample shall be analyzed within 14 days from each sampling site included in the composite for the contaminants which exceeded the one-fifth-MCL level. If available, duplicates of the original sample taken from each sampling site used in the composite may be used instead of resampling; the analytical results shall be reported within 14 days. The water supplier may collect up to two additional samples each from one or more of the sources to confirm the result(s).

(3) Compliance for each site shall be determined on the basis of the individual follow-up samples, or on the average of the follow-up and confirmation sample(s) if the supplier collects confirmation sample(s) for each detection.

(g) If the level of any inorganic chemical, except for nitrate, nitrite, nitrate plus nitrite, or perchlorate, exceeds the MCL, the water supplier shall do one of the following:

(1) Inform the State Board within 48 hours and monitor quarterly beginning in the next quarter after the exceedance occurred; or

(2) Inform the State Board within seven days from the receipt of the analysis and, as confirmation, collect one additional sample within 14 days from receipt of the analysis. If the average of the two samples collected exceeds the MCL, this information shall be reported to the State Board within 48 hours and the water supplier shall monitor quarterly beginning in the next quarter after the exceedance occurred.

(h) If the concentration of an inorganic chemical exceeds ten times the MCL, within 48 hours of receipt of the result the water supplier shall notify the State Board and resample as confirmation. The water supplier shall notify the State Board of the result(s) of the confirmation sample(s) within 24 hours of receipt of the confirmation result(s).

(1) If the average concentration of the original and confirmation sample(s) is less than or equal to ten times the MCL, the water supplier shall monitor quarterly beginning in the quarter following the quarter in which the exceedance occurred.

(2) If the average concentration of the original and confirmation sample(s) exceeds ten times the MCL, the water supplier shall, if directed by the State Board;

(A) Immediately discontinue use of the contaminated water source; and

(B) Not return the source to service without written approval from the State Board.

(i) Compliance with the MCLs shall be determined by a running annual average; if any one sample would cause the annual average to exceed the MCL, the system is immediately in violation. If a system takes more than one sample in a quarter, the average of all the results for that quarter shall be used when calculating the running annual average. If a system fails to complete four consecutive quarters of monitoring, the running annual average shall be based on an average of the available data.

(j) If a system using groundwater has collected a minimum of two quarterly samples or a system using approved surface water has collected a minimum of four quarterly samples and the sample results have been below the MCL, the system may apply to the State Board for a reduction in monitoring frequency.

(k) Water quality data collected prior to January 1, 1990, and/or data collected in a manner inconsistent with this section shall not be used in the determination of compliance with the monitoring requirements for inorganic chemicals.

(l) Water quality data collected in compliance with the monitoring requirements of this section by a wholesaler providing water to a public water system shall be acceptable for use by that system for compliance with the monitoring requirements of this section.

(m) A water system may apply to the State Board for a waiver from the monitoring frequencies specified in subsection (c)(1), if the system has conducted at least three rounds of monitoring (three periods for groundwater sources or three years for approved surface water sources) and all previous analytical results are less than the MCL. The water system shall specify the basis for its request. If granted a waiver, a system shall collect a minimum of one sample per source while the waiver is in effect and the term of the waiver shall not exceed one compliance cycle (i.e., nine years).

(n) A water system may be eligible for a waiver from the monitoring frequencies for cyanide specified in subsection (c)(1) without any prior monitoring if it is able to document that it is not vulnerable to cyanide contamination pursuant to the requirements in §64445(d)(1) or (d)(2).

(o) Transient-noncommunity water systems shall monitor for the inorganic chemicals in table 64431-A as follows:

(1) All sources shall be monitored at least once for fluoride; and

(2) Surface water sources for parks and other facilities with an average daily population use of more than 1,000 people and/or which are determined to be subject to potential contamination based on a sanitary survey shall be monitored at the same frequency as community water systems.

**Section 64432.1. Monitoring and Compliance – Nitrate and Nitrite states:**

(a) To determine compliance with the MCL for nitrate in Table 64431-A, all public water systems using groundwater and transient-noncommunity systems using approved surface water shall monitor annually, and all community and nontransient-noncommunity systems using approved surface water shall monitor quarterly.

(1) The water supplier shall require the laboratory to notify the supplier within 24 hours whenever the level of nitrate in a single sample exceeds the MCL, and shall ensure that a contact person is available to receive such analytical results 24-hours a day. The water supplier shall also require the laboratory to immediately notify the State

Board of any acute nitrate MCL exceedance if the laboratory cannot make direct contact with the designated contact person within 24 hours. Within 24 hours of notification, the water supplier shall:

(A) Collect another sample, and

(B) Analyze the new sample; if the average of the two nitrate sample results exceeds the MCL, report the result to the State Board within 24 hours. If the average does not exceed the MCL, inform the State Board of the results within seven days from the receipt of the original analysis.

(C) If a system is unable to resample within 24 hours, it shall notify the consumers by issuing a Tier 1 Public Notice pursuant to section 64463.1 and shall collect and analyze a confirmation sample within two weeks of notification of the results of the first sample.

(2) For public water systems using groundwater, the repeat monitoring frequency shall be quarterly for at least one year following any one sample in which the concentration is greater than or equal to 50 percent of the MCL. After four consecutive quarterly samples are less than the MCL, a system may request that the State Board reduce monitoring frequency to annual sampling.

(3) For public water systems using approved surface water, the repeat monitoring frequency shall be quarterly following any one sample in which the concentration is greater than or equal to 50 percent of the MCL. After four consecutive quarterly samples are less than 50 percent of the MCL, a system may request that the State Board reduce monitoring frequency to annual sampling. A system using approved surface water shall return to quarterly monitoring if any one sample is greater than or equal to 50 percent of the MCL.

(4) After any round of quarterly sampling is completed, each community and nontransient-noncommunity system which initiates annual monitoring shall take subsequent samples during the quarter which previously resulted in the highest analytical results.

(b) All public water systems shall monitor to determine compliance with the MCL for nitrite in Table 64431-A, by taking one sample at each sampling site during the compliance period beginning January 1, 1993.

(1) If the level of nitrite in a single sample is greater than the MCL, the water supplier shall proceed as for nitrate in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(2) The repeat monitoring frequency for systems with an analytical result for nitrite that is greater than or equal to 50 percent of the MCL shall be quarterly monitoring for at least one year. After four consecutive quarterly samples are less than the MCL, a system may request that the State Board reduce monitoring frequency to annual sampling, collecting subsequent samples during the quarter which previously resulted in the highest analytical results.

(3) The repeat monitoring frequency for systems with an analytical result for nitrite that is less than 50 percent of the MCL shall be one sample during each compliance period (every three years).

(c) All public water systems shall determine compliance with the MCL for nitrate plus nitrite in Table 64431-A. If the level exceeds the MCL, the water supplier shall proceed as for nitrate in accordance with paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(4) of this section.

**Section 64463. General Public Notification Requirements states:**

(a) Each public (community, nontransient-noncommunity and transient-noncommunity) water system shall give public notice to persons served by the water system pursuant to this article.

(b) Each water system required to give public notice shall submit the notice to the State Board, in English, for approval prior to distribution or posting, unless otherwise directed by the State Board.

(c) Each wholesaler shall give public notice to the owner or operator of each of its retailer systems. A retailer is responsible for providing public notice to the persons it serves. If the retailer arranges for the wholesaler to provide the notification, the retailer shall notify the State Board prior to the notice being given.

(d) Each water system that has a violation of any of the regulatory requirements specified in section 64463.1(a), 64463.4(a), or 64463.7(a) in a portion of the distribution system that is physically or hydraulically isolated from other parts of the distribution system may limit distribution of the notice to only persons served by that portion of the system that is out of compliance, if the State Board has granted written approval on the basis of a review of the water system and the data leading to the violation or occurrence for which notice is being given.

(e) Each water system shall give new customers public notice of any acute violation as specified in section 64463.1(a) that occurred within the previous thirty days, any continuing violation, the existence of a variance or exemption, and/or any other ongoing occurrence that the State Board has determined poses a potential risk of adverse effects on human health [based on a review of estimated exposures and toxicological data associated with the contaminant(s)] and requires a public notice. Notice to new customers shall be given as follows:

(1) Community water systems shall give a copy of the most recent public notice prior to or at the time service begins; and

(2) Noncommunity water systems shall post the most recent public notice in conspicuous locations for as long as the violation, variance, exemption, or other occurrence continues.

**Section 64463.4. Tier 2 Public Notice states**:

(a) A water system shall give public notice pursuant to this section if any of the following occurs:

(1) Any violation of the MCL, MRDL, and treatment technique requirements, except:

(A) Where a Tier 1 public notice is required under section 64463.1; or

(B) Where the State Board determines that a Tier 1 public notice is required, based on potential health impacts and persistence of the violations;

(2) All violations of the monitoring and testing procedure requirements in sections 64421 through 64426.1, article 3 (Primary Standards – Bacteriological Quality), for which the State Board determines that a Tier 2

rather than a Tier 3 public notice is required, based on potential health impacts and persistence of the violations;

(3) Other violations of the monitoring and testing procedure requirements in this chapter, and chapters 15.5, 17 and 17.5, for which the State Board determines that a Tier 2 rather than a Tier 3 public notice is required, based on potential health impacts and persistence of the violations; or

(4) Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of any variance or exemption in place.

(b) A water system shall give the notice as soon as possible within 30 days after it learns of a violation or occurrence specified in subsection (a), except that the water system may request an extension of up to 60 days for providing the notice. This extension would be subject to the State Board's written approval based on the violation or occurrence having been resolved and the State Board's determination that public health and welfare would in no way be adversely affected. In addition, the water system shall:

(1) Maintain posted notices in place for as long as the violation or occurrence continues, but in no case less than seven days;

(2) Repeat the notice every three months as long as the violation or occurrence continues. Subject to the State Board's written approval based on its determination that public health would in no way be adversely affected, the water system may be allowed to notice less frequently but in no case less than once per year. No allowance for reduced frequency of notice shall be given in the case of a total coliform MCL violation or violation of a Chapter 17 treatment technique requirement; and

(3) For turbidity violations pursuant to sections 64652.5(c)(2) and 64653(c), (d) and (f), as applicable, a water system shall consult with the State Board as soon as possible within 24 hours after the water system learns of the violation to determine whether a Tier 1 public notice is required. If consultation does not take place within 24 hours, the water system shall give Tier 1 public notice within 48 hours after learning of the violation.

(c) A water system shall deliver the notice, in a manner designed to reach persons served, within the required time period as follows:

(1) Unless otherwise directed by the State Board in writing based on its assessment of the violation or occurrence and the potential for adverse effects on public health and welfare, community water systems shall give public notice by;

(A) Mail or direct delivery 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 water system; and

(B) Use of one or more of the following methods to reach persons not likely to be reached by a mailing or direct delivery (renters, university students, nursing home patients, prison inmates, etc.):

1. Publication in a local newspaper;
2. Posting in conspicuous public places served by the water system, or on the Internet; or
3. Delivery to community organizations.

(2) Unless otherwise directed by the State Board in writing based on its assessment of the violation or occurrence and the potential for adverse effects on public health and welfare, noncommunity water systems shall give the public notice by:

(A) Posting in conspicuous locations throughout the area served by the water system; and

(B) Using one or more of the following methods to reach persons not likely to be reached by a public posting:

1. Publication in a local newspaper or newsletter distributed to customers;
2. E-mail message to employees or students;
3. Posting on the Internet or intranet; or
4. Direct delivery to each customer.

**Section 64463.7. Tier 3 Public Notice states**:

(a) Each water system shall give public notice pursuant to this section if any of the following occurs:

(1) Monitoring violations;

(2) Failure to comply with a testing procedure, except where a Tier 1 public notice is required pursuant to section 64463.1 or the State Board determines that a Tier 2 public notice is required pursuant to section 64463.4; or

(3) Operation under a variance or exemption.

(b) Each water system shall give the public notice within one year after it learns of the violation or begins operating under a variance or exemption.

(1) The water system shall repeat the public notice annually for as long as the violation, variance, exemption, or other occurrence continues.

(2) Posted public notices shall remain in place for as long as the violation, variance, exemption, or other occurrence continues, but in no case less than seven days.

(3) Instead of individual Tier 3 public notices, a water system may use an annual report detailing all violations and occurrences for the previous twelve months, as long as the water system meets the frequency requirements specified in this subsection.

(c) Each water system shall deliver the notice in a manner designed to reach persons served within the required time period, as follows:

(1) Unless otherwise directed by the State Board in writing based on its assessment of the violation or occurrence and the potential for adverse effects on public health and welfare, community water systems shall give public notice by

(A) Mail or direct delivery 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 water system; and

(B) Use of one or more of the following methods to reach persons not likely to be reached by a mailing or direct delivery (renters, university students, nursing home patients, prison inmates, etc.):

1. Publication in a local newspaper;
2. Posting in conspicuous public places served by the water system, or on the Internet; or
3. Delivery to community organizations.

(2) Unless otherwise directed by the State Board in writing based on its assessment of the violation or occurrence and the potential for adverse effects on public health and welfare, noncommunity water systems shall give the public notice by:

(A) Posting in conspicuous locations throughout the area served by the water system; and

(B) Using one or more of the following methods to reach persons not likely to be reached by a posting:

1. Publication in a local newspaper or newsletter distributed to customers;
2. E-mail message to employees or students;
3. Posting on the Internet or intranet; or
4. Direct delivery to each customer.

(d) Community and nontransient-noncommunity water systems may use the Consumer Confidence Report pursuant to sections 64480 through 64483, to meet the initial and repeat Tier 3 public notice requirements in subsection 64463.7(b), as long as the Report meets the following:

(1) Is given no later than one year after the water system learns of the violation or occurrence;

(2) Includes the content specified in section 64465; and

(3) Is distributed pursuant to paragraph (b)(1) and (2) or subsection (c).

**Section 64465. Public Notice Content and Format states**:

(a) Each public notice given pursuant to this article, except Tier 3 public notices for variances and exemptions pursuant to subsection (b), shall contain the following:

(1) A description of the violation or occurrence, including the contaminant(s) of concern, and (as applicable) the contaminant level(s);

(2) The date(s) of the violation or occurrence;

(3) Any potential adverse health effects from the violation or occurrence, including the appropriate standard health effects language from appendices 64465-A through G;

(4) The population at risk, including subpopulations particularly vulnerable if exposed to the contaminant in drinking water;

(5) Whether alternative water supplies should be used;

(6) What actions consumers should take, including when they should seek medical help, if known;

(7) What the water system is doing to correct the violation or occurrence;

(8) When the water system expects to return to compliance or resolve the occurrence;

(9) The name, business address, and phone number of the water system owner, operator, or designee of the water system as a source of additional information concerning the public notice;

(10) A statement to encourage the public notice recipient to distribute the public notice to other persons served, using the following standard language: —Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this public 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; and

(11) For a water system with a monitoring and testing procedure violation, this language shall be included: "We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During [compliance period dates], we ['did not monitor or test' or 'did not complete all monitoring or testing'] for [contaminant(s)], and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time." ...

(c) A public water system providing notice pursuant to this article shall comply with the following multilingual-related requirements:

(2) For a Tier 2 or Tier 3 public notice:

(A) The notice shall contain information in Spanish regarding the importance of the notice, or contain a telephone number or address where Spanish-speaking residents may contact the public water system to obtain a translated copy of the notice or assistance in Spanish; and

(B) When a non-English speaking group other than Spanish-speaking exceeds 1,000 residents or 10 percent of the residents served by the public water system, the notice shall include:

1. Information in the appropriate language(s) regarding the importance of the notice; or
2. A telephone number or address where such residents may contact the public water system to obtain a translated copy of the notice or assistance in the appropriate language; and

(3) For a public water system subject to the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act, Chapter 17.5, Division 7, of the Government Code (commencing with section 7290), meeting the requirements of this Article may not ensure compliance with the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act.

(d) Each public notice given pursuant to this article shall:

(1) Be displayed such that it catches people's attention when printed or posted and be formatted in such a way that the message in the public notice can be understood at the eighth-grade level;

(2) Not contain technical language beyond an eighth-grade level or print smaller than 12 point; and

(3) Not contain language that minimizes or contradicts the information being given in the public notice.

**Appendix 64465-D. Health Effects Language - Inorganic Contaminants**

| ***Contaminant*** | ***Health Effects Language*** |
|---|---|
| Nitrate | Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women. |
| Nitrite | Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrite in excess of the MCL may become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. |

**Section 64469. Reporting Requirements states:**

(a) Analytical results of all sample analyses completed in a calendar month shall be reported to the State Board no later than the tenth day of the following month.

(b) Analytical results of all sample analyses completed by water wholesalers in a calendar month shall be reported to retail customers and the State Board no later than the tenth day of the following month.

(c) Analytical results shall be reported to the State Board electronically using the Electronic Deliverable Format as defined in The Electronic Deliverable Format [EDF] Version 1.2i Guidelines & Restrictions dated April 2001 and Data Dictionary dated April 2001.

(d) Within 10 days of giving initial or repeat public notice pursuant to Article 18 of this Chapter, except for notice given under section 64463.7(d), each water system shall submit a certification to the State Board that it has done so, along with a representative copy of each type of public notice given.

**Section 64481. Content of the Consumer Confidence Report states in relevant part:**

(g) For the year covered by the report, the Consumer Confidence Report shall note any violations of paragraphs (1) through (7) and give related information, including any potential adverse health effects, and the steps the system has taken to correct the violation.

(1) Monitoring and reporting of compliance data.

## APPENDIX 2. NOTIFICATION TEMPLATE

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Por favor hable con alguien que lo pueda tradúcir.

### Nitrate Monitoring Requirements Not Met for City of Tulare During 2018

Our water system failed to monitor as required for drinking water standards during 2018 and, therefore was in violation of the regulations. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct the situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During calendar year 2018, we did not collect a nitrate sample from Well 01 and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

**What should I do?**

- There is nothing you need to do at this time.
- The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during the calendar year 2018, how many samples we are required to take and how often, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples will be taken.

| Contaminant | Required sampling frequency | Number of samples taken | When all samples should have been taken | When samples will be taken |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nitrate | Minimum is one sample annually from Well 01 | None | During calendar year 2018 | |

- If you have health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done? _____

_____

[Describe corrective action]_____

_____

We anticipate resolving the problem within [estimated time frame]

_____

For more information, please contact:

[Name of Contact] _____

[Phone Number] or _____

[Mailing Address] _____

*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 City of Tulare in compliance with the California Domestic Water Quality and Monitoring Regulations as a means of keeping the public informed.

State Water System ID: 5410015. Date distributed: _____

## APPENDIX 3. COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION

**Citation Number:** 03-24-19C-027

**Name of Water System:** City of Tulare

**System Number:** 5410015

**Certification**

I certify that the users of the water supplied by this water system were notified of the nitrate monitoring violation of California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 64432.1(a) for the compliance period of 2018 and the required actions listed below were completed.

| Required Action | Date Completed |
|---|---|
| *(Citation Directive 1) Public Notification Method(s) Used:*_____ | |

_____ _____

Signature of Water System Representative Date

**Attach a copy of the public notice distributed to the water system's customers.**

**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE STATE WATER BOARD, DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER, NO LATER THAN April 10, 2019.**

**Disclosure:** Be advised that the California Health and Safety Code, Sections 116725 and 116730 state that any person who knowingly makes any false statement on any report or document submitted for the purpose of compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act may be liable for, respectively, a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000) for each separate violation or, for continuing violations, for each day that violation continues, or be punished by a fine of not more than $25,000 for each day of violation, or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment.

## Appendix 4. NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT

**Citation Number:** 03-24-19C-027

**Name of Water System:** City of Tulare

**System Number:** 5410015

**Certification**

I certify that I am an authorized representative of the City of Tulare and that Citation No. 03-24-19C-027 was received on _____. Further I certify that the Citation has been reviewed by the appropriate management staff of the City of Tulare and it is clearly understood that Citation No. 03-24-19C-027 contains legally enforceable directives with specific due dates.

_____ _____

Signature of Water System Representative Date

**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE STATE WATER BOARD, DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER, NO LATER THAN April 10, 2019.**

**Disclosure:** Be advised that the California Health and Safety Code, Sections 116725 and 116730 state that any person who knowingly makes any false statement on any report or document submitted for the purpose of compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act may be liable for, respectively, a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000) for each separate violation or, for continuing violations, for each day that violation continues, or be punished by a fine of not more than $25,000 for each day of violation, or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment.