



REGION 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129

January 17, 2025

Ref: 8WD-SDR

SENT VIA EMAIL

Perry Owings, VA Water Plant Operator
Veterans Administration Medical Center
1898 Fort Road
Sheridan, Wyoming 82801
jacob.owings@va.gov

Re: **Notice of Noncompliance**
Revised Total Coliform Rule and Surface Water Treatment Rule
Failure to Monitor (Routine Samples)
PWS ID# WY5680001 C

Dear Perry Owings:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Veterans Administration Medical Center has failed to complete the required monitoring for total coliform bacteria and distribution system chlorine residual because it has not submitted at least 1 sample per month. Our office has not received any or all of your system's routine total coliform bacteria monitoring results nor associated distribution system chlorine residual results for **December 2024** as required by 40 C.F.R. §141.854-141.858 and §141.74(c)(3)(i) of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR). Monitoring results are due to EPA by the 10th of the month following each monthly monitoring period 40 C.F.R. §141.31(a). This constitutes two violations of the NPDWR.

If not already done, please complete all the following actions:

- (1) Collect your currently due monthly sample as soon as possible and report the results to EPA immediately. When collecting any total coliform bacteria samples, you must measure the chlorine residual at the same time and location. These measurements must be reported on the water sample form that is submitted to the laboratory.
- (2) Public notification (PN) is required within one year after the system learns of the violation 40 C.F.R. §141.204(b)(1). You may use the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) as your delivery method to bill-paying customers if the CCR will be delivered within one year from the date of

the violation. You may also include the PN with the water bill or other mailing or by direct delivery by hand. For customers who do not receive a CCR or water bill you must **also** distribute the public notice through publication in a local newspaper, delivery of multiple copies for distribution by customers that provide their drinking water to others (e.g., apartment building owners or large private employers), posting in public places or on the Internet, or delivery to community organizations. You can use the PN template enclosed with this letter or create your own Tier 3 public notice using the EPA Microsoft Word templates available at: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/reporting-forms-drinking-water-systems-wyoming-and-tribal-lands-epa-region-8#pn>.

- (3) Please forward a copy of your public notice and certify that the public notification requirements were completed. The PN and certification must be received by our office within ten days of completion.

If you collected samples and they were analyzed, please forward copies of the results to our office using one of the methods listed below. Collecting your samples and analyzing them but not reporting them to EPA within 10 days after the end of the month is a reporting violation that also requires public notification. Include your PWS name and PWS ID# on all correspondence.

Email: R8DWU@epa.gov (preferred)

Fax: 303-312-7517

Mail: Refer to the address at the top of this letter. Use Mail Code 8WD-SDR on the envelope.

It is your responsibility to make sure that EPA has your drinking water sample results, even if your lab sends results to EPA on your behalf. You can check the EPA database by going to Drinking Water Watch on-line and navigating to your water system with your PWS ID# (found in the heading of this letter). The website can be found at <https://sdwisdwww.epa.gov/DWWR8WY/>. Please give EPA at least one week from the time you receive your sample results from the lab before checking the EPA database.

You should be aware that repeated violations of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations may result in formal enforcement action taken against your water system. If formal enforcement action were to be necessary, the Safe Drinking Water Act provides for civil penalties of up to \$71,545 per day of violation. We prefer to address problems before such formal enforcement is necessary and ask your cooperation to resolve problems quickly and effectively.

If you have any questions regarding total coliform monitoring, please contact Jamie Harris at 303-312-6072 or by email at harris.jamie@epa.gov. For distribution system chlorine residual monitoring questions, please contact Jake Crosby at 303-312-6389 or by e-mail at crosby.jake@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

**SETH
TOURNEY**

Seth Tourney, P.E.

Supervisor, Rule Implementation Section
Drinking Water Program

Digitally signed by SETH
TOURNEY
Date: 2025.01.17
14:48:57 -07'00'

Enclosure

cc:

Michael Alliot, Program Manager
Sheridan VA Medical Center
michael.alliot@va.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date of Release: _____ PWS Number: _____

FAILURE TO MONITOR VIOLATION TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA AND CHLORINE RESIDUAL

To All _____ Water Users
(Name of water system/business)

We are required to monitor your drinking water for total coliform bacteria and chlorine residual on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During _____ we did not complete all monitoring for total coliform bacteria and chlorine residual and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.
(compliance period)

The table below lists the failure to monitor violations we received for total coliform and chlorine residual monitoring during the last year. (Please check the ones that apply to your system.)

Monitoring Period (Month/Year)	Failure to Monitor	No Replacement Sample after a Routine Sample was Invalidated by the Lab	Insufficient Number of Routine Samples

What happened? What is being done?

If you have any questions, please contact _____ at _____.
(Water system contact person) (Phone)

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

Optional: If applicable, you may also include the statement that "Subsequent water samples have been analyzed as safe."

SAMPLE: Suggested public notice language for FAILURE TO MONITOR FOR TOTAL COLIFORM AND CHLORINE RESIDUAL.

You may use the above notice sample or write your own but the text in italics must be included in any notification.

PWS Operator/Responsible Party:

Since most monitoring violations require a Tier 3 public notice, you must provide public notice to persons served within one year after you learn of the violation. Multiple monitoring violations can be serious, and your primacy agency may have more stringent requirements. Check with your primacy agency to make sure you meet its requirements.

Community Systems must use one of the following methods:

- hand or direct delivery
- mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Non-Community Systems must use one of the following methods:

- posting in conspicuous locations
- hand delivery
- mail

In addition, both community and non-community systems must use another method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method. Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations. If you post the notice, it must remain posted until the violation is resolved but in no case less than seven (7) days, even if the violation is resolved. If the violation has been resolved, you must post the notice for at least one week. If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if available.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for distribution after each violation or collectively at the end of the calendar year. If you choose to wait until the end of the year to give notice, the enclosed form can be issued alone, or it can be inserted into your CCR as long as public notification requirements are met.

After issuing the notice, make sure to send EPA Region 8 a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notice requirements within ten days after issuing the notice.

Send the copy of your notice and dates posted to Attn: RTCR Manager:

Email: R8DWU@epa.gov

Fax: 303-312-7517

Mail: Refer to the address at the top of this letter. Use Mail Code 8WD-SDR on the envelope.

If you have questions about your RTCR FTM violation, contact Jamie Harris at 303-312-6072 or by email at harris.jamie@epa.gov. If you have questions about your distribution system chlorine residual FTM violation, please contact Jake Crosby at 303-312-6389 or by e-mail at crosby.jake@epa.gov.

Certification of Public Notification

I _____ **certify that the attached public notification was issued**
(PWS Operator/Responsible Party)

from _____ to _____
(Date) (Date)

The attached notice was issued by _____
(Method of delivery)

Signature _____ Date _____