



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
www.epa.gov/region8

January 27, 2024

Ref: 8WD-SDB

SENT VIA EMAIL

Mike Dellos, Water Operator
South Big Horn County JPB
P.O. Box 33
Meeteetse, Wyoming 82433
mdellos58@gmail.com

Re: Notice of Noncompliance
Lead and Copper Rule
Failure to Perform Lead Consumer Notice
PWS ID# WY5601454 C

Dear Mike Dellos:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the South Big Horn County JPB Public Water System has failed to perform lead consumer notification for the monitoring period of June 1 to September 30, 2023. According to 40 C.F.R. § 141.85(d) of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR), all water systems are required to provide a consumer notice of the individual lead tap water results to the persons served by the System as soon as practical, but no later than 30 days after the System learns of the tap monitoring results. Certification of consumer notification was due to the EPA 90 days after the end of the monitoring period, or by December 29, 2023 (40 C.F.R. § 141.90).

This is a violation of the NPDWR. In order to return to compliance, please take the following actions:

- (1) Provide lead consumer notification to the persons served by the System at the specific sampling sites from which the samples were taken. Enclosed is a copy of the Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results Form.
- (2) Submit one example of a distributed Notice of Lead Tap Water Results Form along with the enclosed Lead Consumer Notice Certification Form to the EPA.

You should be aware that repeated violations of the NPDWR 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 judicial penalties of up to \$69,733 per day of

violation. We prefer to address problems before such formal enforcement is necessary, and we ask for your cooperation to resolve them quickly and effectively.

Please send all forms and sample results to our office using one of the methods listed below. Include your PWS name and PWS ID# on all correspondence.

Email: R8DWU@epa.gov

Fax: 1-(877) 876-9101

Mail: Refer to the address at the top of this letter. Please use Mail Code 8WD-SDB on the envelope.

If you have questions, please contact the Lead and Copper Compliance Rule Manager, Bolor Bertelmann directly at (303) 312-6233, or by email at bertelmann.bolor@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

**Bloom,
Judy**

 Digitally signed by
Bloom, Judy
Date: 2024.01.27
18:50:05 -07'00'

Judy Bloom
Supervisor, Drinking Water Section B
Water Division

Enclosures:

Notice of Lead Tap Water Results Form

Lead Consumer Notice Certification Form

Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results

Public Water System Name: _____ Public Water System ID: _____

Sample Location: _____ Date Collected: _____

Dear _____,

We would like to thank you for your participation in the lead tap monitoring program. Below is the lead result for the sample location listed above. Additional general information concerning lead in drinking water follows. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

If you need more information concerning this result, please call the _____ community water supply at _____ and ask for _____.

ONLY the statement that is checked below applies to your sample location.

☐ Lead was NOT DETECTED at this sample location.

☐ Lead was detected at _____ mg/L. This result is BELOW the lead action level of 0.015 mg/L.

☐ Lead was detected at _____ mg/L. This result is ABOVE the lead action level of 0.015 mg/L.

What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 0.015 mg/L. This means utilities must ensure that water from the customer's tap does not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the homes sampled (90th percentile value). The action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. If water from the tap does exceed this limit, then the utility must take certain steps to correct the problem. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA set a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) of zero for lead. The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

If detected, your lead level may be due to conditions unique to your home, such as the presence of lead solder or brass faucets, fittings and valves that may contain lead. Our system works to keep the corrosivity of our water as low as possible (corrosive water can cause lead to leach from plumbing materials that contain lead) and there are actions you can take to reduce exposure. We recommend that you to take the steps below to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water.

Should the lead 90th percentile for this water supply exceed the lead action level, we would take a number of steps to correct the problem. Such steps include; monitor our source water for lead content, initiate controls to reduce the corrosivity of our water, and initiate lead service line replacement if needed.

What Are The Health Effects of Lead?

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

What Are The Sources of Lead?

The primary sources of lead exposure for most children are deteriorating lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated residential soil. Exposure to lead is a significant health concern, especially for young children and infants whose growing bodies tend to absorb more lead than the average adult. Lead is rarely found in source water, but enters tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. Homes built before 1988 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder.

What Can I Do To Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

If you are concerned about the lead levels at your location, there are several things you can do:

- ***Run your water to flush out lead.*** If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. This will help flush lead-containing water from the pipes.
- ***Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.*** Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- ***Do not boil water to remove lead.*** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- ***Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.***
- ***Test your water for lead.*** Call us at the number above to find out how to get your water tested for lead.
- ***Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead.*** Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows pipes, fittings, and fixtures with up to .25 percent weighted average of lead to be identified as "lead-free."

Lead Consumer Notice Certification

This form is intended for use by public water systems in Wyoming and tribal lands in the following states: Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah or Wyoming.

Please complete this Lead Consumer Notice Certification Form. Include one completed Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results Form and send both documents to: EPA Region 8, Lead/Copper Rule Manager, r8dwu@epa.gov, or mail to 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, CO 80202-1129 or fax to: Attention Lead/Copper Rule Manager, 1-877-876-9101.

PWS Name: _____ PWS No. _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone : (____) _____

Today's Date: _____

Monitoring period to which the notice applies (e.g., June – September 2019): _____

The last result for the period was received from the laboratory on: _____

All results were provided to consumers by (date): _____

The water system also certifies that the notice contained the following information and was delivered within 30 days of receiving the test results from the laboratory:

- Individual tap results from lead tap water monitoring
- An explanation of the health effects of lead
- Steps that consumers can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water
- Contact information for your water utility
- The maximum contaminant level goals and action levels for lead, and definitions of these two terms

DELIVERY METHOD

The result/information notice was distributed by the following method, check all that apply:

By Direct Mail _____

By Hand Delivery _____

By Electronic mail _____

Other (e.g. posting) _____

Signature of Owner, Administrative Contact, or Official Custodian

I, _____, hereby certify that the lead consumer notice has been provided to each person it serves at the specific sampling site from which the sample was tested.

Signature _____ Date _____

Title _____