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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

IN RE: **CITY OF HURON**
 Water System No. 1010044

TO: Mr. Gerald Forde, City Manager
 City of Huron
 P.O. Box 339
 Huron, CA 93234

**CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE
TOTAL COLIFORM MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL VIOLATION**

July 2013

Issued on October 11, 2013

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

VIOLATION

The Drinking Water Field Operations Branch of the Department of Public Health (hereinafter 'Department') hereby issues a Citation to City of Huron (hereinafter 'City'), for failure to comply with Section 116555(a)(1) of the CHSC and Section 64426.1(b)(2) of Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR). Specifically, the City (mailing address:

1 P.O. Box 339, Huron, CA 93234) failed to comply with the total coliform Maximum
2 Contaminant Level (MCL) for the month of July 2013.

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5 Section 64426.1(b)(2) specifies that a public water system collecting fewer than 40 samples
6 per month is in violation of the total coliform MCL when more than one sample collected
7 during any month is total coliform-positive.

8
9 The City is required to collect a minimum of seven (7) distribution system bacteriological
10 samples per month. The bacteriological water analysis results submitted by the City
11 reported the presence of total coliform bacteria in two(2) of twenty-eight (28) samples
12 collected by the City in July 2013. None of the positive samples showed the presence of
13 fecal coliform or *E. coli* bacteria.

14
15 Upon being informed of the presence of total coliform bacteria in one routine sample
16 collected on July 10, 2013, City staff collected a total of three repeat samples on July 11,
17 2013. One (1) out of the three (3) repeat samples showed the presence of total coliform
18 bacteria. Additional repeat samples were not collected following the positive repeat sample
19 that was collected on July 11, 2013. Due to the above-mentioned total coliform positive
20 samples, the City failed the total coliform MCL for the month of July 2013. All water
21 samples for coliform bacteria collected during July 2013 are summarized in Attachment A.

22
23 The cause of the contamination is unknown since no specific source of contamination has
24 been identified. The City did not notify the Department of the MCL failure. The City
25 provides continuous chlorination of the distribution system. The chlorine residual in the
26 routine and repeat samples during this incident were 0.8-2.1 ppm.

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2 The above violation is classified as a non-continuing violation.
3

4 **ASSOCIATED VIOLATIONS**

5 Additionally, the City has failed to comply with the following Section of Title 22, CCR:
6

7 Section 64424(a) specifies that if a routine sample is total coliform-positive, the water
8 supplier shall collect a repeat sample set as described in Sections 64424(a)1 and 64424(b)
9 within 24 hours of being notified of the positive result. The repeat samples shall all be
10 collected within the same 24 hour period.
11

12 Section 64424(c) specifies that if one or more samples in the repeat sample set is total
13 coliform-positive, the water supplier shall collect and have analyzed an additional set of
14 repeat samples. The supplier shall repeat this process until either no coliform are detected
15 in one complete repeat sample set or the supplier determines that the MCL for total
16 coliform specified in Section 64426.1 has been exceeded and notifies the Department.
17

18 The above violations are classified as non-continuing violations.
19

20 **NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

21 Section 64426.1(c) requires a public water system to notify the Department and the
22 consumers of the water system, when a violation of Section 64426.1(b)(1) through (4) the
23 total coliform MCL occurs. Notification to the Department shall be by the end of the
24 business day on which the violation has been determined. If the Department is closed,
25 notification shall be within 24 hours of the determination. The Department was not notified
26 in accordance with the above-referenced section.
27

1 A Tier 2 Public Notice for violation of paragraph 64426.1(b)(2 shall be given pursuant to
2 Section 64463.4and 64465. The Tier 2 Public Notice shall include the mandatory health
3 effects language from Appendix 64465-A for a total coliform MCL failure.

4

5 Section 64463.4 allows community water systems to use mail or direct delivery to each
6 customer and the use of one or more of the following methods: publication in a daily or
7 weekly newspaper, posting the public notice in a conspicuous public place within the water
8 system or on the internet, or by delivery to community organizations. The Tier 2
9 notification methods are included Attachment B.

10

11 The City shall either mail or conduct direct delivery of the public notice to all customers
12 served within the general service area. Section 116450(g) requires that upon receipt of
13 notification from a public water system, schools must notify school employees, students,
14 and parents (if the students are minors), residential rental property owners or managers
15 (including nursing homes and care facilities) must notify their tenants and business property
16 owners, managers or operators must notify employees of businesses located on the property.
17 These secondary notification requirements are included in the public notice. The
18 Department hereby waives public notification by newspaper, posting or delivery to
19 community organizations.

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21 Proof of notification is required. The City shall complete Attachment C and return it to the
22 Department by **November 14, 2013**.

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1 **DIRECTIVES**

2 The City is hereby directed to take the following actions:

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4 1. By **October 31, 2013** the City of Huron water system shall provide public
5 notification of the total coliform Maximum Contaminant Level failure by mail or
6 conduct direct delivery of the public notice to all customers served within the
7 general service area. The Water System is additionally required to use one or more
8 of the following notification methods: publication in a daily or weekly newspaper,
9 posting the public notice in a conspicuous public place within the water system or
10 on the internet, or by delivery to community organizations.

11
12
13 By **November 14, 2013** the City shall provide proof of notification of the total
14 coliform MCL violation notification to each consumer using Attachment C, to:

15
16 Betsy S. Lichti, Senior Sanitary Engineer
17 Department of Public Health
18 Drinking Water Field Operations Branch
19 265 W. Bullard Avenue, Suite 101
20 Fresno, CA 93704

21 2. The City shall collect repeat samples as required by Section 64424 and as discussed
22 in this Citation whenever a routine sample is positive for total coliform bacteria.

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24 3. The City shall notify the Department of any further violations of the total coliform
25 MCL by the end of the business day on which the violation has been determined, or,
26 if the Department is closed, within 24 hours of the determination.

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4. By November 14, 2013, the City shall complete and submit a report to the Department that describes the incident and all corrective actions taken, and the results of the investigation. The investigation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a) Conduct a review of the water treatment plant records for the days during and just prior to the detection of the positive samples in the distribution system. An evaluation of the turbidity and chlorine residuals from the plant should also be included.
- b) Current operating procedures that are or could potentially be related to the increase in bacterial count, such as main repairs or well work conducted without disinfection.
- c) System pressure loss to less than 5 psi.
- d) Potential cross connections.
- e) Physical evidence indicating bacteriological contamination of facilities (such as openings in the well casing, storage tank or evidence of animal activity in the vicinity of the well).
- f) Analytical results of any additional investigative samples collected, including well samples.
- g) Residents' illness suspected of being waterborne.
- h) Records of the investigation and any action taken.

CIVIL PENALTIES

Sections 116650(d) and 116650(e) of the CHSC allow for the assessment of a civil penalty for failure to comply with requirements of the California Safe Drinking Water Act. Failure to comply with any provision of this Citation may result in the Department imposing an administrative penalty of not less than \$100 (one hundred dollars) per day as of the date of violation of any provision of this Citation.

10/10/13

Date

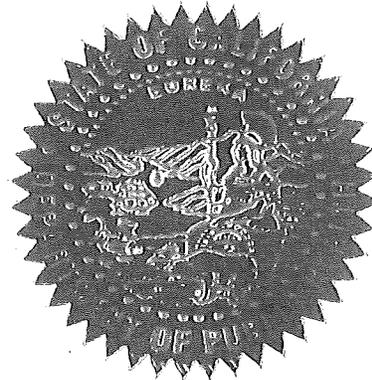
Betsy S. Lichti, P.E.
Senior Sanitary Engineer, Fresno District
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS BRANCH

BSL/MH

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Summary of Bacteriological Samples collected in September 2002.
- Attachment B: Public Notification Methods
- Attachment C: Proof of Notification Form

1010044 TCRMCL JULY-08Cit ID03-23-13C-042 ID _____



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