



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

March 20, 2013  
Certified Mail/Return  
Receipt Requested  
7009 1680 0001 3114 5080

Quincy CSD  
900 Spanish Creek Road  
Quincy, CA 95971

Attention: Larry Sullivan – General Manager

**Subject: Public Water System No. 3210004 – Citation No. 01-02-13C-007-3210004-22  
December 2012 Exceedance of the Bacteriological Maximum Contaminant Level**

Enclosed is a citation issued to the Quincy Community Services District (District). The citation is being issued because the District failed to comply with the drinking water standard for total coliform bacteria during December 2012. 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 Steve Watson at (530) 224-4828 or me at (530) 224-4800.

Michael J. McNamara, P.E.  
Lassen District Engineer  
DRINKING WATER FIELD  
OPERATIONS BRANCH

Enclosures

cc: Plumas County Environmental Health Department

sww \ 3210004 Quincy CSD \ File: Enforcement

1 **Citation No. 01-02-13C-007-3210004-22**

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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6 **Public Water System:** Quincy Community Services District

7 **Water System No.:** 3210004

8

9 **To:** Quincy Community Services District

10 Attention: Larry Sullivan, General Manager

11 900 Spanish Creek Road

12 Quincy, CA 95971

13

14 **Issued:** March 20, 2013

15 VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

16

17 **CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE**

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

19 **Section 64426.1(b)**

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

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26 The Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management of the California  
27 Department of Public Health (Department) hereby issues a citation to the Quincy



1 Community Services District (District) for failure to comply with Section 64426.1(b),  
2 Title 22, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

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4 **APPLICABLE AUTHORITIES**

5 Section 116650 of the CHSC states in relevant part:  
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7 (a) If the department determines that a public water system is in  
8 violation of this chapter or any regulation, permit, standard, citation,  
9 or order issued or adopted thereunder, the department may issue a  
10 citation to the public water system. The citation shall be served upon  
11 the public water system personally or by certified mail. Service shall  
12 be deemed effective as of the date of personal service or the date of  
13 receipt of the certified mail. If a person to whom a citation is directed  
14 refuses to accept delivery of the certified mail, the date of service  
15 shall be deemed to be the date of mailing.

16  
17 (b) Each citation shall be in writing and shall describe the nature of the  
18 violation or violations, including a reference to the statutory  
19 provision, standard, order, citation, permit, or regulation alleged to  
20 have been violated.

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22 (c) A citation may specify a date for elimination or correction of the  
23 condition constituting the violation.

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25 (d) A citation may include the assessment of a penalty as specified in  
26 subdivision (e).

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



1 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

2 The Quincy Community Services District (District) domestic water system is classified  
3 as a community water system serving approximately 1,879 year-round residents  
4 through 769 service connections. As such, the District is required to collect two  
5 routine bacteriological samples per month according to Section 64423 of Title 22. On  
6 December 3, 2012, the District collected two routine samples from the distribution  
7 system that contained total coliform bacteria. On December 4, 2012, six repeat  
8 samples were collected from the distribution system, four of which were found to  
9 contain total coliform bacteria. Sample results suggested that the contamination was  
10 originating from the Claremont Spring transmission line. Therefore, this source was  
11 taken off-line. The entire distribution system was then disinfected and flushed. On  
12 December 27, 2012, five additional samples were collected from the distribution  
13 system and were found to be absent of total coliform bacteria. Therefore, for the  
14 month of December 2012, six samples were found to contain total coliform bacteria.  
15 None of the samples that contained total coliform bacteria tested positive for E. coli.

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17 **DETERMINATIONS**

18 The Department has determined that the District violated Section 64426.1(b)(2), Title  
19 22, of the CCR, in that the District exceeded the total coliform MCL during the month  
20 of December 2012.

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22 **DIRECTIVES**

23 The District is hereby directed to take the following actions:

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

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2. Within 30 days of the issuance of this Citation, 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 contained in Attachment 'A' 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 contained in Attachment 'A' 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.

Changes and/or modifications to Attachment 'A' shall be not be made unless approved by the Department.

3. Complete and return Attachment 'B' "Certification of Completion of Public Notification" form within 10 days of giving public notice. A copy of the notice used to provide public notification shall be attached to the form.



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

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Michael J. McNamara, P. E.  
Lassen District Engineer  
Drinking Water Field Operations  
Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management  
Department of Public Health  
415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 110  
Redding, CA 96002  
(530) 224-4800

13 Nothing in this Citation relieves the District of its obligation to meet the requirements  
14 of Health and Safety Code, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4 (California Safe Drinking  
15 Water Act), or any regulation, permit, standard or order issued or adopted  
16 thereunder.

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18 The Department reserves the right to make such modifications to this Citation, as it  
19 may deem necessary to protect public health and safety. Such modifications may be  
20 issued as amendments to this Citation and shall be effective upon issuance.

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22 **FURTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTION**

23 Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4, (commencing with section 116270) of the California  
24 Health and Safety Code authorizes the Department to: issue additional citations with  
25 assessment of penalties if the District continues to fail to correct a violation identified  
26 in a citation; take action to suspend or revoke a permit that has been issued to a  
27 public water system if the system has violated applicable law or regulations or has



1 failed to comply with orders of the Department; and petition the superior court to take  
2 various enforcement measures against a public water system that has failed to  
3 comply with orders of the Department. The Department does not waive any further  
4 enforcement action by issuance of this Citation.

5

6 **PARTIES BOUND**

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

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10 **SEVERABILITY**

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

13

14 Michael J. McNamara  
15 Michael J. McNamara, P.E., District Engineer  
16 Lassen District  
17 Drinking Water Field Operations Branch

3/20/2013  
Date

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18 **Attachments:**

- 19 'A' Public Notification Template
- 20 'B' Certification of Completion

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## 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.

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### Tests Showed Coliform Bacteria in the Quincy CSD Domestic Water System

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

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants in the water system. For December 2012, we collected 13 samples from our water system to test for the presence of coliform bacteria. Six of these samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than one sample per month may show the presence of coliform bacteria.

#### What Should You Do?

**You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

#### What Does This Mean?

This is not an emergency. If it were, you would have been notified immediately. 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, coliform bacteria are a signal that there may be a problem with our source of supply, storage, or distribution systems. 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.

#### What Happened? What Was Done?

On December 3, 2012, the District collected two routine samples from the distribution system that contained total coliform bacteria. On December 4, 2012, six repeat samples were collected from the distribution system, four of which were found to contain total coliform bacteria. Sample results suggested that the contamination was originating from the Claremont Spring transmission line. Therefore, this source was taken off-line. The entire distribution system was then disinfected and flushed. On December 27, 2012, five additional samples were collected from the distribution system and were found to be absent of total coliform bacteria. As weather permits, we will continue to investigate the source of the contamination from the spring transmission main. This source will not be used until sample results show the water is free of total coliform bacteria.

For more information please contact Larry Sullivan, QCSD General Manager, at 283-0836.

This notice is being provided to you by the Quincy CSD in compliance with the California Domestic Water Quality and Monitoring Regulations as a means of keeping the public informed.

## 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** Quincy CSD

**Public Water System No.** 3210004

Public notification for the December 2012 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 \_\_\_\_\_. 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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For this method, provide the date (or dates) that the notice was posted \_\_\_\_\_.

I hereby certify that the above information is factual.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date