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May 4, 2009

Dave Sanner, Superintendent
City Hall
4 Public Square
Blue Rapids, Kansas 66411

Dear Dave;

I am sorry for not being able to meet with you during my visit on April 23. However, I did have the opportunity to meet with Jim Flower and discuss several issues concerning the city's water supply system. I was pleased to learn that the city was recently awarded a grant for construction of a new storage tank. This will be a great improvement to your system.

I have already faxed the following information to you, but wanted to summarize it for both you and the council before you attend the KRWA Ground Water Rule Workshop in Salina this week. As you know, the new Ground Water Rule takes effect December 1, 2009. One of the goals of this rule is to provide 4-log (99.99%) inactivation of viruses if possible. If 4-log inactivation can be provided, the city would not be required to conduct raw well water sampling should you have a total coliform positive result in future distribution system samples. 4-log inactivation is only required if raw water sampling indicates fecal contamination and the source of the contamination cannot be eliminated.

Based on my preliminary calculations, the city should be able to provide 4-log inactivation at Well No. 3, but not at Wells No. 1 or No. 2. Based on data provided by Jim and a water temperature of 59.0 degrees, your wells need a minimum 4.0 mg-min/L chlorine contact time (CT). Well No. 3 provides 4.6 mg-min/L, which exceeds the needed 4.0 mg-min/L. However, Well No. 1 only has a CT value of 1.3 mg-min/L. Well No. 2 has 2.6 mg-min/L.

More than likely, Blue Rapids will be in the same situation as many other water supplies with regard to this rule. Attend the workshop this week and see what KDHE advises you to do. I would suspect the city will continue to operate as in the past with the understanding that raw well water sampling will be required in the future for Wells No. 1 and No. 2 should you have any total coliform positive samples.

Jim and I also discussed operation of the city's lagoon system. The city is commended for the recent purchase of a new sewer jetter. Routine cleaning of sewer mains should help prevent problems with basement backups and raw sewage bypasses. I also mentioned to Jim that KRWA will have a lagoon workshop in Enterprise, Kansas on May 20. I encourage the city to attend. You can register on-line at www.krwa.net. Full day attendance provides five (5) credit hours toward re-certification.

Please feel free to call me at 913-850-8822 if I can be of any assistance. Funding for the above assistance was provided through a contractual arrangement between the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (State Revolving Loan Program set-aside) and the Kansas Rural Water Association (KRWA). Please visit the KRWA website at www.krwa.net for news and information concerning water and wastewater utilities, training opportunities, and other KRWA programs.

Sincerely,

Jeff Lamfers
Consultant

c: John Nowak, Mayor
Jim Flower, Operator
Kelly Kelsey, KDHE-Topeka
Helen Holm, KDHE-Lawrence