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February 15, 2010

Robert Knapp
Allen RWD 10
24470 Chase RD
Chanute, Kansas 66720

Dear Robert,

I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you recently to discuss the operation of the rural water district. KDHE has requested that KRWA staff meet with several water systems across the state that are not routinely submitting all bacteriological water samples each month. Allen RWD 10 was one of the systems cited by KDHE.

One of the most important tools an operator can use to ensure coliform-free drinking water is to routinely collect and submit all bacteriological water samples to the KDHE laboratory for analysis. Monitoring for coliform, along with daily monitoring of chlorine residuals, helps public water systems demonstrate the water is safe to drink. State regulations require all public systems to collect bacteriological water samples each month. The number of samples required is based on the population served. Allen RWD 10 is required to submit two routine water samples each month. If samples take longer than 30 hours to reach the KDHE lab, replacement sample bottles are sent to the district. If any sample is positive for coliform bacteria, three repeat (check) samples are required to determine if contamination is still present and help locate the source of that contamination.

Allen RWD 10 failed four times in the months of January of 2009 and July, September and October 2008 to deliver all samples to the lab in a timely manner. If the district does not submit two samples (routine or replacement) each month, a monitoring violation automatically occurs and the district is required to notify all customers within 12 months. The district must also provide KDHE with a copy of the notice delivered to your customers and a Certificate of Delivery indicating when and how the notices were delivered to your customers. Allen RWD 10 will also be required to include copies of the January 2009 public notices in your 2010 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). Your CCR must be delivered to all customers by no later than July 1, 2010.

You have stated that during the three violations in 2008 Allen RWD 10 employed a different operator and the violation in 2009 was a 'time in transit' violation, as the sample took longer than 30 hours to reach the KDHE lab. It has been brought to our attention that multiple water systems throughout Kansas have had issues with the transit time of their water samples. **I recommend taking all water samples at the beginning of each month in order to allow time for replacement samples to be collected if required. I also recommend you develop a tracking system, such as using a calendar, to make sure the district has submitted two "good" samples each month.**

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to reach me by phone at 620-762-6266 or email at eric@krwa.net.

Sincerely,

Eric Davolt
Technical Assistant, KRWA

C: Cathy Tucker-Vogel, KDHE, Topeka
Richard Thomas, KDHE, Chanute