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February 15, 2010

Natalie Dent
Neosho RWD 1 Consolidated
10515 HWY 59
Erie, Kansas 66733

Dear Natalie,

I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you recently to discuss the operation of the 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. Neosho RWD 1 Consolidated 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 their 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. Neosho RWD 1 Consolidated 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 RWD. 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.

Neosho RWD 1 Consolidated failed three times: the months of November 2008, and February and April 2009. The district failed as KDHE did not receive two testable samples that reached 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. Neosho RWD 1 Consolidated will also be required to include a copy of the January 2009 public notice in your 2010 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) which must be delivered to all customers by no later than July 1, 2010.

The violations were 'time in transit' violations, as the samples 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 collecting replacement samples if needed. 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. Finally, the district may want to consider using another carrier service (such as UPS or FedEx) to ensure the timely delivery of all samples to KDHE.**

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: Tom Bartholomew, Chairman
Doyle Reissig, Operator
Cathy Tucker-Vogel, KDHE, Topeka
Richard Thomas, KDHE, Chanute