



**PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
Drinking Water Services**

Tina Kotek, Governor

Oregon
Health
Authority

800 NE Oregon Street, #640

Portland, OR 97232-2162

Phone 971-673-0405

FAX 971-673-0694

TTY-Nonvoice 971-673-0375

11/9/2023

MAC MCDONALD

GOBLE WATER ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 937

RAINIER, OR 97048

Re: Confirmation of E. coli in source water at SPRING (SRC-AA) on 11/6/2023 and 11/8/2023

Dear MAC MCDONALD:

Recent source water samples confirm the presence of E. coli, an indicator of fecal contamination in the source water. Fecal contamination includes harmful bacteria and viruses that have the potential to cause serious gastrointestinal illness. Water containing E. coli is considered unsafe to drink.

Unless you are able to immediately verify that disinfection requirements have been met, you must issue a boil water public notice within 24 hours. A copy of the public notice must be received by the State Drinking Water Services by 11/22/2023. This notice will be in place until the microbiological contamination issue has been resolved or interim disinfection meeting 4-log inactivation of viruses has been verified.

You now have the following four options for corrective action, upon approval of your Regulating Agency - COLUMBIA COUNTY:

1. Inspect the groundwater source (wellhead or spring collector) and surrounding area for pathways of fecal contamination and correct any significant deficiencies;
2. Disconnect the groundwater source from the water system and provide an approved alternate source of water;
3. Identify and eliminate the cause of fecal contamination by documenting the contaminant type, its proximity to the groundwater source and the process of removal; or

4. If the groundwater source meets all applicable construction standards specified in OAR 333-061-0050(2), provide treatment that reliably achieves at least 4-log inactivation of viruses.

You must consult with your Regulating Agency within 30 days of receiving this letter to discuss appropriate corrective action. You must also complete the corrective action chosen or be in compliance with a written corrective action plan approved by your Regulating Agency no later than 03/13/2024.

Furthermore, confirmed E. coli in SPRING requires an evaluation by a state hydrogeologist to determine if the groundwater is under the direct influence of surface water. GOBLE WATER ASSOCIATION will be notified if additional monitoring is required.

Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated. Please contact COLUMBIA COUNTY at (503) 397-7247/7232 to discuss this matter in more detail.

Drinking Water Services

Enc.
Public Notice Template

cc: Peter Farrelly, DWS
Tom Pattee, DWS Hydrogeologist
Daniel Osborn/Jaime Aanensen, Columbia County