

June 26, 2019

Greg Lucas, Mayor
The City of Sumpter
PO Box 68
Sumpter, OR 97877

RE: Warning for failing to have a certified operator

Mayor Lucas,

The City of Sumpter owns and operates the water system serving the people and businesses of Sumpter, Oregon; a community public water system identified by ID# OR41-00845 and serving approximately 200 people. The Sumpter water system is subject to regulation according to Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 448.115 to 448.290 and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 333-061-0005 to 333-061-0272. The City is therefore a water supplier as defined in ORS 448.115(12) and OAR 333-061-0020 and has specific responsibilities as defined in OAR 333-061-0025.

The Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division, Center for Health Protection, Drinking Water Services (DWS) was notified that the certified operator in direct responsible charge of the Sumpter water system resigned and that the water system, including its surface water treatment facilities, are not currently being operated or maintained by qualified personnel.

1. OAR 333-061-0225(1) requires, in part, water suppliers to at all times employ, contract with, or otherwise utilize an operator to be in direct responsible charge of every community public water system. Additionally, the operator must be certified at a level equal to or greater than the classification of the water system for which they are responsible. DWS records indicate that an operator certified at level 1 for both water distribution and water treatment must be in direct responsible charge of the Sumpter water system. If the City does not immediately designate an operator to be in direct responsible charge of the water system, it will constitute a violation of OAR 333-061-0225.

ACTIONS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE

1. The City must report to DWS, within 30 days of the date of this letter, the name of the certified operator it has designated to be in direct responsible charge of the Sumpter water system.
 - If the City is unable to designate a certified operator within this time frame, it must submit an action plan identifying how it will hire, train, or contract with a qualified operator to fill the position at the water system and a deadline by which the operator will be present.
2. To demonstrate surface water treatment is effective, the City must ensure monitoring according to OAR 333-061-0036(5)(b) is conducted every day and report any of the following occurrences to DWS within 24 hours:
 - Any turbidity measurement exceeding 1 NTU in filtered water;
 - Any residual disinfectant measurement less than 0.2 mg/L in water entering the distribution system; or
 - Any CT calculation that demonstrates the required levels of inactivation specified in OAR 333-061-0032(5)(a) are not met.

If the City does not comply with the actions or deadline specified in this letter, the continued non-compliance may result in additional enforcement action and may include the assessment of civil penalties as prescribed by OAR 333-061-0090. Please contact Amy Word at (541) 966-0901 to discuss the actions required in this letter.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully,



Brad K. Daniels
Compliance Specialist
Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services

cc: Bill Goss, Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services
Amy Word, Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services