# PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION Center for Health Protection, Drinking Water Services

Kate Brown, Governor



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# BEFORE THE STATE OF OREGON OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION CENTER FOR HEALTH PROTECTION

In the Matter of

Little River Christian Camp, PWS OR4190476

Respondent

NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

To: Randy Chitwood

Southern Oregon Association of Christian Churches

1224 NE Walnut Street #263

Roseburg, OR 97470

The Southern Oregon Association of Christian Churches has at all times mentioned herein owned and operated, and continues to own and operate, the Little River Christian Camp public water system (hereinafter "Water System") located at 351 Christian Camp Lane in Glide, Oregon. The Water System is a transient non-community public water system serving approximately 30 people and is subject to regulation under Oregon Revised Statutes 448.115 to 448.290 and Oregon Administrative Rules 333-061-0005 to 333-061-0272.

The Southern Oregon Association of Christian Churches (hereinafter "Water Supplier") is therefore a water supplier as defined in Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 448.115(12) and

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Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 333-061-0020, and as a water supplier, has specific responsibilities that are identified in OAR 333-061-0025.

Pursuant to its authority established in ORS 431A.010 and ORS 448.255, the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division, Center for Health Protection, Drinking Water Services (DWS) has investigated the operation of the Water System.

DWS found, during its investigation, that Water Supplier failed to correct significant deficiencies following a sanitary survey at the Water System. Two significant deficiencies constitute direct pathways for contamination to enter the water system. Water Supplier is therefore unable to assure its water users that the water is sufficiently free from contaminants such that individuals will not be exposed to disease or harmful physiological effects (ORS 448.115(8)). This represents a potential public health hazard.

This Notice of Violation and Administrative Order (Order) is being issued to Water Supplier for the specific violations of the Oregon Drinking Water Quality Act (ORS 448.115 to ORS 448.290) and rules found during DWS' investigation as described below.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF RULE VIOLATIONS**

- 1. OAR 333-061-0025 requires water suppliers to take all reasonable actions to assure that the water delivered to water users does not exceed maximum contaminant levels, that water system facilities are free of public health hazards and that water system operation and maintenance are performed as required by the rules. The significant deficiencies present in the Water System's surface water filtration facility could allow contamination to enter the Water System. Water Supplier failed to demonstrate it corrected these deficiencies or failed to submit a plan and schedule for corrections since they were reported to Water Supplier on December 10, 2019. This constitutes a violation of OAR 333-061-0025.
- 2. OAR 333-061-0076(5)(a) requires, in part, water suppliers responsible for water systems using surface water sources to respond with a plan and schedule within 45 days of when significant deficiencies are identified within a sanitary survey report. DWS conducted a sanitary survey at the Water System on August 29, 2019 and mailed a letter to Dean Soper on December 10, 2019 identifying significant deficiencies discovered during the survey. The letter required that Water Supplier submit the plan and schedule for correcting the significant deficiencies by January 29, 2020. The deficiencies identified included the following, each of which are considered

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a direct pathway for contamination to enter a water system and are a priority for correction.

- 1) The lack of pressure gauges before and after a cartridge filter.
- 2) The failure to conduct direct integrity testing for a membrane filter.

Additionally, DWS mailed a letter to you on November 18, 2020 requiring these deficiencies be corrected before June 1, 2021 but to date, the deficiencies have not been corrected and no plan or schedule has been submitted indicating when the deficiencies will be corrected. This constitutes a violation of OAR 333-061-0076(5)(a).

#### **ACTIONS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE**

Water Supplier is required to conduct the remedial actions described below which, if taken within the time specified in this Order, will effect compliance with the rule(s) violated (ORS 448.255(3)).

1. Water Supplier must demonstrate to the satisfaction of DWS that the significant deficiencies identified in Violation No. 2 above were corrected within 30 days of the date of service of this Order or that Water Supplier has developed a plan for correcting these deficiencies prior to June 1, 2022.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS AND CIVIL PENALTIES

This Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension or modification of the requirements of the Oregon Drinking Water Quality Act (ORS 448.115 to 448.290) and Oregon Administrative Rules OAR 333-061-0005 to 333-061-0272, which remain in full force and effect.

This Order does not relieve Water Supplier of any responsibilities or liabilities established pursuant to any applicable federal, state, or local law or regulation.

Issuance of this Order is not an election by DWS to forgo any civil actions authorized under the Oregon Drinking Water Quality Act.

Failure to comply with any of the requirements in this Order by the specified due date may result in additional enforcement action, which could include assessment of civil penalties in the amount of \$50 per day per violation (OAR 333-061-0090). Civil penalties may be assessed beginning the day following the date of service of this Order and

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accruing through the date when DWS issues a Notice of Intent to Impose Civil Penalty. For example, if DWS issues a Notice of Intent to Impose Civil Penalty on November 10 for failure to correct the significant deficiency according to this Order, the proposed civil penalty could be as much as \$1,500.

Pursuant to ORS 448.990(2), violations of a rule of the Oregon Health Authority may be a crime in Oregon and punishable as a Class A misdemeanor.

# NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST A HEARING

You are entitled to a hearing as provided by the Administrative Procedure Act (Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 183). If you want a hearing you must file a written request for hearing with DWS within 10 days from the date this Order was mailed. The request for hearing must be sent to: David Emme, Manager; Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services; PO Box 14450; Portland, OR 97293.

If you request a hearing, DWS will notify you of the time and place at which the hearing will be held. You may enlist representation by legal counsel. Per ORS 413.041, a party that is not a natural person may be represented by an attorney or by any officer or authorized agent or employee of the party. Parties are ordinarily represented by counsel. DWS will be represented by an Assistant Attorney General. Prior to the hearing date, DWS will provide you with information on the procedures, right of representation and other rights of parties relating to the conduct of the hearing. An administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings will be assigned to preside over the hearing, as required by ORS 183.635.

If you do not make a timely request for a hearing, the Notice of Violation and Administrative Order will become final and effective 11 days after the date this Order was mailed. If the Order becomes final in this manner, you will have the right to appeal the order to the Oregon Court of Appeals pursuant to ORS 183.482. To appeal you must file a petition for judicial review with the Court of Appeals within 71 days from the day this order was mailed. If you do not file a petition for judicial review within the 71-day time period, you will lose your right to appeal.

If you do not request a hearing and DWS subsequently issues a Notice Imposing a Civil Penalty, you will have waived any right to contest the violations.

If you withdraw a request for hearing, or notify DWS or the administrative law judge that you will not appear or fail to appear at a scheduled hearing, DWS may issue a final order by default. If the Order becomes final in this manner, you will have the right to appeal the

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Order to the Oregon Court of Appeals pursuant to ORS 183.482. To appeal you must file a petition for judicial review with the Court of Appeals within 60 days from the day this Order was mailed. If you do not file a petition for judicial review within the 60-day time period, you will lose your right to appeal.

#### **Notice to Active Duty Servicemembers**

Active duty Servicemembers have a right to stay these proceedings under the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. For more information, contact the Oregon State Bar at 800-452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 503-584-3571 or the nearest United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Office through <a href="http://legalassistance.law.af.mil">http://legalassistance.law.af.mil</a>. The Oregon Military Department does not have a toll-free telephone number.

DWS has designated its complete file on the Water System as the record in this case for purposes of proving a prima facie case upon default.

If you need to receive the information in this Order in an alternate format, or if you have any questions about the requirements in this Order, please contact Brad K. Daniels at 503-735-5438.

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Dated this 1st day of October, 2021.

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David Emme, Manager Drinking Water Services Oregon Health Authority

> cc: Rebecca Templin, Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services Joel Young, Little River Christian Camp

DATE of Service: October 4, 2021

Signature

Brad K. Daniels Printed Name

By certified mail and first-class mail