PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION Center for Health Protection, Drinking Water Services

Kate Brown, Governor



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March 1, 2022

Rajesh Kumar Wolf Creek General Store 107 Sether Avenue #108 Glendale, OR 97442

RE: Warning letter for the inadequately constructed groundwater source at the Wolf Creek General Store public water system

Records indicate that you operate the Wolf Creek General Store public water system (hereinafter "Water System") located at 397 Old Highway 99 South in Wolf Creek, Oregon. You are therefore a water supplier as defined in Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 448.115(12) and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 333-061-0020, and have specific responsibilities as defined in OAR 333-061-0025.

The Water System is a transient non-community public water system identified by PWS ID# OR4194657. The system serves approximately 80 people and is subject to regulation according to ORS 448.115 to 448.290 and OAR 333-061-0005 to 333-061-0272.

The Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division, Center for Health Protection, Drinking Water Services (DWS) has reviewed the operation of the Water System. This review has found that you are not in compliance with the following Oregon Administrative Rules and therefore not meeting your responsibilities as a water supplier as prescribed by the Oregon Drinking Water Quality Act (ORS 448.115 to ORS 448.290) and rules.

DESCRIPTION OF RULE VIOLATIONS

1. OAR 333-061-0032(6), in part, requires that water suppliers complete corrective action when a groundwater source is determined to have significant deficiencies or when sample results indicate the presence of *E. coli* bacteria in a groundwater source. Corrective action must be completed within 120 days or according to a schedule approved by DWS. The presence of *E. coli* bacteria was confirmed in the well supplying the Water System with a sample collected on November 4, 2021 but you

failed to complete corrective action following the confirmation of *E. coli* in the well. This constitutes a violation of OAR 333-061-0032(6).

- 2. OAR 333-061-0050(2)(a)(G) requires, in part, that wells be constructed in accordance with the standards for the construction and maintenance of water wells in Oregon as prescribed in OAR chapter 690, divisions 200 through 220 at public water systems. DWS completed an evaluation of the well supplying the Water System on February 24, 2022 and found that this groundwater well does not meet construction standards. This constitutes a violation of OAR 333-061-0050(2)(a)(G).
- 3. OAR 333-061-0078(4) requires, in part, water suppliers to correct sanitary defects discovered during coliform investigations as soon as practical or that water suppliers comply with a timetable approved by DWS. Neil Jensen conducted a coliform investigation on December 14, 2021 and during that investigation, he identified several defects related to the construction of the groundwater well supplying the Water System. These defects could allow contaminants to enter the drinking water supply. You did not correct these defects by the January 31, 2022 date specified in the investigation report and, as of the date of this letter, have not notified DWS or Neil Jensen that the defects have been corrected. This constitutes a violation of OAR 333-061-0078(4).

ACTIONS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE

Due to the rule violations identified above, you must:

- 1. Submit an action plan to DWS no later than April 30, 2022 identifying how you will replace the groundwater well currently supplying the Water System with a source of water approved by DWS and that meets all applicable construction standards specified in OAR 33-061-0050. The action plan shall:
 - o Identify all tasks you intend to perform to remove the existing groundwater well from service and replace it with a new water source, and set reasonable deadlines for completing all the identified tasks; and
 - o Include complete construction or installation plans that meet the requirements in OAR 333-061-0060 for the construction or modification of any facilities at the Water System. Construction plans must be approved by DWS prior to any construction or installation taking place.

2. You must perform and complete all tasks in the action plan described in Corrective Action No. 1 by the deadlines in the action plan and shall notify DWS in writing within 5 calendar days of completing all the tasks. In order for this corrective action to be met, any construction or installation performed must be approved by DWS and meet the applicable construction standards in OAR 333-061-0050.

If you do not comply with the deadlines 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 Neil Jensen at the Oregon Department of Agriculture at (541) 290-2397 to discuss the actions required in this letter.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully,

Brad K. Daniels

Compliance Specialist

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Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services

cc: Zach Golik, Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services
Neil Jensen, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Sarah Schwab, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Shawn Stevenson, Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services