

Joseph Conway – WHA Water Director  
7 Pine Tree Court  
Lakeville PA 18438  
1/31/2021

Re: DEP Mandatory Public Notification

Dear WHA Member:

Page two of this letter includes the subject mandatory notification required by DEP for failure to correct a significant deficiency. You shall receive this notice every 120 days until resolved, this is a DEP regulation.

On September 17, **2019**, the DEP performed an inspection of our community water system. During the inspection the DEP noted that the chlorine treatment system was removed from Bluebird well house and that water from the well house was piped over to Pine tree well house for chlorine treatment at that location. This change in design has not been permitted by DEP and therefore results in this current violation.

You all should be aware, as it is discussed at every meeting, as well as being an open agenda item on our meeting minutes, that Bluebird well was not currently permitted for this reconfiguration and that WHA has not utilized Bluebird well as a community water source since being cited in 2019.

During my discussion with the DEP Sanitarian she stated that she does not see a sanitary issue with our current configuration but rather a paperwork issue (permit). We are only currently permitted to treat the water at Bluebird location, she provided two paths forward to resolve:

1. Restore Bluebird to the permitted configuration (Chlorine injection at Bluebird).
2. Apply for a new permit for the reconfigured chlorine injection of Bluebird supply at Pine Tree well house.

I was not involved in the reconfiguration as I became the Water Director January 2020 so I can't provide any history as to why the configuration was changed without a permit, nor does it matter at this point. The reconfiguration was a prudent decision from a technical perspective, as it does make a great deal of sense to treat both wells at one location. After consulting with Jack and Paul, we feel option 2 is the pragmatic choice and have authorized our water operator to hire a licensed Engineer to handle and resolve this issue in a timely manner.

Regards.

# FAILURE TO COMPLETE SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.

WOODLAND HILLS ASSOCIATION recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation. BLUE BIRD WELL CHLORINE

A routine inspection conducted on SEPT 2019 by the DEP found TREATMENT RECONFIGURED

We were required to take action to correct this deficiency. However, we failed to take this action by the deadline established by DEP. DEADLINE WAS 120 DAYS FROM SEPT 2019

### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

*Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.*

These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

**What is being done?** AS YOU MAY BE AWARE BLUE BIRD HAS BEEN OFFLINE SINCE THE 2019 INSPECTION, OUR WATER OPERATOR HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO HIRE A LICENSED ENGINEER TO OBTAIN DEP PERMIT

We anticipate resolving the problem within 3 MONTHS (or the problem was resolved on \_\_\_\_\_).

For more information, please call JOE CONWAY of WOODLAND HILLS B.O.D at 516 369 4734

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by WHA B.O.D DIRECT DELIVERY

PWS ID #: 2640051

Date distributed: 2/2/2021