**DRINKING WATER NOTICE**

**[System] Failed to [Conduct an Assessment OR Perform Corrective Action Following an Assessment] of the Facility and Distribution System**

*Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system.*

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. In [number] samples collected on [date], we found coliforms, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurred, we exceeded the Level 1 trigger and are required to conduct an assessment within 30 days. (Insert if Level 2 assessment: [This was our second Level 1 trigger in the past 12 months,]) A [Level] assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. (Insert if violation (a): [We failed to conduct the required [Level] assessment within 30 days, and have therefore, violated a requirement of the Revised Total Coliform Rule.] OR Insert if violation (b): [We failed to correct all identified sanitary defects that were found during the assessment(s), and have therefore, violated a requirement of the Revised Total Coliform Rule.])

**What does this mean?**

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

[System] failed to [conduct an assessment OR perform corrective action following an assessment] which attempts to identify sanitary defects that have the potential to cause distribution system contamination. Inadequately treated or inadequately protected water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms can cause symptoms such as diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches. [System] failed to [conduct an assessment OR perform corrective action following an assessment] in a timely manner, which prolonged the risk of contamination in our distribution system. We are committed to correcting the deficiency to eliminate the threat of contamination.

**What should I 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 their health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.

**What is being done?**

[Describe corrective action and give a status update.]

For more information, please contact [Insert Contact Name], manager of [System], at [phone number] or write to [mailing address].

*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 posted by [System]. [PWSID #]. Sent: [Date]