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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**IN RE:** Averydale Mutual Water Company  
3659 E. Avenue H-4  
Lancaster, CA 93535

**TO:** Patrick Sprinkle  
President

**CITATION**

**CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE – WATER SYSTEM NO. 1910023**

**Issued on July 29, 2013**

Section 116650, Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 104 of the California Health and Safety Code (H&S Code) authorizes the issuance of a citation for failure to comply with a requirement of the California Safe Drinking Water Act or any regulation, standard, permit, or order issued thereunder.

**VIOLATION**

The Drinking Water Field Operations Branch of the Department of Public Health (hereinafter, Department) hereby issues a citation to Averydale Mutual Water Company (hereinafter, Company) for the following violations:

1. Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 64426.1(b)(2). Specifically, the Company failed to meet the Primary Drinking Water Standards for bacteriological quality during May 2013. A public water system which collects fewer than forty samples per month is in violation of the Total Coliform



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Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) when more than one sample collected during a single month is total coliform-positive. During May 2013, the Company had two out of six coliform samples (the total number of samples includes both routine and repeat samples) that were total coliform-positive. One repeat sample was positive for total coliform.

2. Title 22, CCR, Section 64424(a). Specifically, the Company failed to collect upstream and downstream repeat total coliform samples after being notified of a total coliform positive result from a routine sample collected on May 22, 2013 at 3361 E. Ave. H-14.
3. Title 22, CCR, Section 64430. Specifically, the Company failed to collect triggered source water samples within 24 hours of notification of a total coliform positive sample.

In accordance with Section 116650(e) of the H&S Code, the above violations are classified as non-continuing violations.

**BACKGROUND**

The Company is operating under the authority of a full domestic water supply permit No. 04-16-04P-001 issued on May 13, 2004. The permit was amended on June 30, 2006 to add a mixed-oxidant disinfectant system at well productions Sites 1 and 2 and to change Well 3 status from standby to active. Averydale Mutual Water Company is a community water system that supplies water for domestic purposes to an approximate population of 1,500 persons through 293 metered service connections.

1 The Company's distribution system is located in an unincorporated portion of Los  
2 Angeles County in the Antelope Valley. The Averydale service area is approximately  
3 400 acres and is adjacent to the City of Lancaster. Averydale is a one-pressure zone  
4 system that consists of four groundwater wells, three storage reservoirs having a  
5 combined capacity of about 0.8 million gallons (MG), three pneumatic tanks, and two  
6 existing emergency liquid chlorination systems. Averydale has no interconnections  
7 with other water systems.

8  
9 The Company's groundwater supply consists of four active wells, Wells 1, 3, 4, and 5.  
10 All wells pump groundwater from the Antelope Valley Basin. Averydale has two  
11 groundwater production facilities, known as Sites 1 and 2. At Site 1, Wells 1 and 5 are  
12 the primary sources. At full capacity, these wells produce approximately 2,300  
13 gallons per minute (gpm) of groundwater. Prior to distribution, the water is stored in  
14 two reservoirs with a combined capacity of 0.5 MG. Site 1 also includes Well 2, which  
15 is not presently in service, and two pneumatic tanks to maintain system pressure. At  
16 Site 2, Well 4 produces approximately 60 gpm of groundwater, which is stored in a 0.3  
17 MG reservoir prior to distribution. Similar to Site 1, there is a pneumatic tank on site to  
18 maintain system pressure. The well pumps are automatically controlled according to  
19 the water level in the reservoirs.

20  
21 The Company is required to collect a minimum of two bacteriological samples monthly  
22 from its distribution system. This number is based on the Company's 293 active  
23 service connections and service population of 1,500. The Company's coliform sample  
24 siting plan (CSSP) for the Total Coliform Rule (TCR) was last updated in 2006. The  
25 plan lists two routine sample locations. One sample is taken monthly from each of  
26 these routine sampling locations. The bacteriological samples are collected by the  
27 Company's certified operators and analyzed by Antelope Valley – East Kern Water



1 Agency. Disinfectant residual levels are also measured at the bacteriological sampling  
2 locations when the total coliform samples are collected and the results are reported to  
3 the Department.

4  
5 On May 21, 2013, the Company collected a routine bacteriological sample at 3361 E.  
6 Avenue H-14 in accordance the Company's approved CSSP. This routine sample was  
7 total coliform-positive and *E. coli*-negative. Upon learning of the presence of total  
8 coliform at this location, the Company collected only one repeat sample on May 22,  
9 2013 at the routine sample site, 3361 E. Avenue H-14. The Company was required to  
10 collect a repeat total coliform sample set (consisting of three samples, one at the  
11 original total-coliform positive site, one upstream, and one downstream) as well as  
12 triggered source monitoring after being notified of the total coliform positive result of  
13 the routine sample. The Company failed to collect the required repeat samples and  
14 conduct triggered source monitoring, specifically the upstream sample at 3371 E.  
15 Avenue H-14 and the downstream sample at 3349 E. Avenue H-14, and the triggered  
16 source monitoring from Wells 3, 4, and 5 after being notified of the total coliform  
17 positive result.

18  
19 Results for the repeat sample collected on May 22, 2013 were total coliform-positive  
20 and *E. coli*-negative. The Company collected three repeat samples on May 22, 2013  
21 in accordance with the approved CSSP. The repeat samples were total coliform-  
22 negative. During the month of May 2013, the Company had 2 Coliform-positive  
23 samples out of 6 samples collected, which is above the 5.0% maximum allowed;  
24 therefore, the Company violated the TCR for the month of May 2013.



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**DIRECTIVES**

The Company is hereby directed to take the following actions:

1. Cease violating the requirements of Section 64424(a), Section 64426.1(b)(2), and Section 64430 Title 22, CCR: Primary Drinking Water Standards for bacteriological quality and Ground Water Rule requirement.
2. Within 30 days of receipt this Citation, the Company shall notify persons served by the Company's water system about the total coliform MCL violation in accordance with Section 64463.4 of Title 22, CCR. The content of the notice shall be approved by the Department prior to issuance. A copy of the notification shall be submitted to the Department within 10 days of the issuance, along with the enclosed proof of notification form.
3. Within 10 days of receipt of this citation, the Company shall submit a letter stating the Company's commitment to comply with the requirements as set forth above.

All submittals required by this Citation shall be addressed to:

Sutida Bergquist, P.E.  
Central District Engineer  
Department of Public Health  
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch  
500 North Central, Suite 500  
Glendale, CA 91203

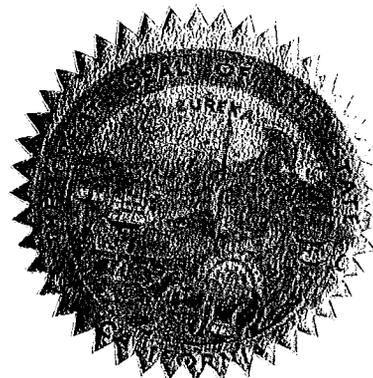
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**CIVIL PENALTIES**

Subsections 116650 (d) and (e) of the H & S code allow for the assessment of a civil penalty for failure to comply with requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. There is no penalty for this citation. However, failure to comply with any provision of this citation will result in the Department imposing an administrative penalty of up to \$100 (one hundred dollars) per day as of the date of violation of any provision of this citation.

July 29, 2013  
Date

*Sutida Bergquist*  
Sutida Bergquist, P.E.  
Central District Engineer  
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch



SB/CS