



NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
DRINKING WATER BUREAU



SUSANA MARTINEZ
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JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

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Butch Tongate
Cabinet Secretary
J.C. Borrego
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
7006 0810 0005 7274 4090

September 8, 2017

Ralph Jaramillo
Belen Water System
100 S. Main
Belen, NM 87002

**RE: Administrative Compliance Order, No. 2017-ACO-15 Belen Water System, PWS#
NM3524932**

Mr. Jaramillo,

Please find attached Administrative Compliance Order No. 2017-ACO-15 issued to Belen (City of), for Belen Water System, PWS# NM3524932, under the Environmental Improvement Act, NMSA 1978, § 74-1-10, and the Drinking Water Regulations, 20.7.10 NMAC. Please review the Administrative Compliance Order (Order) carefully to understand what action must be taken to comply with the requirements of the Order. Belen (City of) has a right to answer the allegations in the Order and request a hearing, NMSA 1978, §§ 61-33-120.E and 74-1-10.E and 20.1.5 NMAC (available at www.env.nm.gov).

If you have any questions or need assistance with meeting the requirements of this Order, please contact Maria J. Medina, Enforcement Coordinator, at 505-476-8629 or via email at maria.medina@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

Bruce Yurdin
Division Director
Water Protection Division

cc. Compliance Officer (Electronic)
Region 6, EPA (Electronic)
P:\~ ELECTRONIC CENTRAL FILE BY WATER SYSTEM

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENT

NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
WATER PROTECTION DIVISION,

Complainant,
v.

No. 2017-ACO-15

BELEN (CITY OF),
Respondent.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE ORDER

Pursuant to the Environmental Improvement Act (“EIA”), NMSA 1978, § 74-1-10, and the Drinking Water Regulations (“DW Regulations”), 20.7.10 NMAC, the Secretary of the New Mexico Environment Department (“NMED”), acting through the Director of the Water Protection Division of the NMED, issues this Administrative Compliance Order (“Order”) to Belen (City of) (“Respondent”) to enforce the EIA and DW Regulations.

FINDINGS

1. The NMED is an executive agency within the government of the State of New Mexico and is charged with administration and enforcement of the EIA and DW Regulations.
2. Respondent owns and operates a public drinking water system (“System”) Belen Water System, PWS# NM3524932, located in Valencia County, New Mexico.
3. The System is a Community water system, as defined by Section 20.7.10.100 NMAC, [incorporating 40 C.F.R. § 141.2], that regularly provides piped drinking water to approximately nine thousand seven hundred eighty (9780) residents and has approximately three thousand (3000) service connections to serve these residents.
4. Respondent, Belen (City of), is a “person” as defined by the EIA, NMSA 1978, § 74-1-3 and 20.7.10.100 NMAC, [incorporating 40 C.F.R. § 141.2].

5. 20.7.10.100 NMAC, [incorporating 40 C.F.R. § 141.62(b)(16) and 141.23(i)(1)], requires a Community water system to not exceed the Arsenic Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 0.010 mg/L and establishes compliance with the MCL for Arsenic is determined by a Running Annual Average (RAA).

6. On December 28, 2016, a Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued to Respondent by NMED for exceeding the Arsenic MCL at the Cavaco Well during the third (3rd) and fourth (4th) quarters of 2016. The NOV notified Respondent that it was required to provide public notice of the violation.

7. On April 13, 2017, an NOV was issued to Respondent by NMED for exceeding the Arsenic MCL at the Cavaco Well during the first (1st) quarter of 2017. The NOV notified Respondent that it was required to provide public notice of the violation.

8. On July 26, 2017, an NOV was issued to Respondent by NMED for exceeding the Arsenic MCL at the Cavaco Well during the second (2nd) and third (3rd) quarters of 2017. The NOV notified Respondent that it was required to provide public notice of the violation.

VIOLATION 1

9. Respondent is in violation of 20.7.10.100 NMAC, [incorporating 40 C.F.R. § 141.62(b)(16) and 141.23(i)(1)], which requires a Community water system to not exceed the Arsenic MCL of 0.010 mg/L and establishes compliance with the MCL for Arsenic is determined by a Running Annual Average (RAA). Respondent exceeded the MCL for Arsenic during the third (3rd), fourth (4th) quarters of 2016 and the first (1st), second (2nd), and third (3rd) quarters of 2017 with a RAA concentration of 0.011 mg/L, 0.011 mg/L, 0.011 mg/L, 0.011 mg/L, and 0.011 mg/L.

RETURN TO COMPLIANCE

Based upon the foregoing, Respondent is hereby ordered to comply with the following:

10. By February 28, 2018, submit a proposed corrective action plan (CAP) to NMED for review identifying the steps that will be taken to bring the water system into full compliance with 20.7.10.100 NMAC, [incorporating 40 C.F.R. § 141.62(b)(16) and 141.23(i)(1)].

11. By August 31, 2019, comply with 20.7.10.100 NMAC, [incorporating 40 C.F.R. § 141.62(b)(16)], and provide drinking water with concentrations of Arsenic below the MCL of 0.010 mg/L.

12. By August 31, 2020, comply with 20.7.10.100 NMAC, [incorporating 40 C.F.R. § 141.23(i)(1)], and have a RAA for Arsenic below the MCL of 0.010 mg/L.

13. Submittals made pursuant to paragraphs 10 through 12 of this Order shall be sent by standard U.S. mail or certified mail with return receipt requested to the following:

Maria J. Medina, Enforcement Coordinator
New Mexico Environment Department
Drinking Water Bureau
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

If respondent fails to comply with the requirements of paragraphs 10 through 13 of this order, the Secretary of NMED may assess additional civil penalties not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each instance of noncompliance with this order.

RIGHT TO ANSWER AND REQUEST A HEARING

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, §§ 61-33-120.E and 74-1-10.E and 20.1.5 NMAC (available at www.env.nm.gov), Respondent has the right to request a hearing. If Respondent (a) contests any material or legal matters upon which this Order is based; (b) contends that Respondent is entitled to prevail as a matter of law; or (c) otherwise contests the appropriateness of this Order, Respondent may mail or deliver within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Order a written Request for Hearing at the following address:

Hearing Clerk
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Respondent must attach a copy of this Order to the Request for Hearing. 20.1.5.200.A(2)(d) NMAC.

The Request for Hearing shall include an Answer. Respondent's Answer shall clearly and directly admit, deny or explain each of the factual allegations contained in this Order with regard to which Respondent has any knowledge. Where Respondent has no knowledge of a particular factual allegation, Respondent should so state, and the Respondent may deny the allegation on that basis. Any allegation in this Order not specifically denied shall be deemed admitted. 20.1.5.200.A(2)(a) NMAC.

Respondent's Answer shall also include any affirmative defenses upon which Respondent intends to rely. Any affirmative defense not asserted in the Answer, except a defense asserting lack of subject matter jurisdiction, shall be deemed waived. 20.1.5.200.A(2)(b) NMAC.

Respondent's Answer shall be signed under oath or affirmation that the information contained therein is to the best of the signer's knowledge believed to be true and correct. 20.1.5.200.A(2)(c) NMAC.

FINALITY OF ORDER

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, §§ 61-33-10.E and § 74-1-10.E, this Order shall become final unless the Respondent files a Request for Hearing with the Hearing Clerk within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Order.

SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

Whether or not a Request for Hearing has been filed, Respondent may confer with the NMED concerning settlement of this Order. The NMED encourages settlement consistent with the provisions and objectives of the EIA and the DW Regulations. Settlement discussions neither extend the thirty (30) day deadline for filing a Request for Hearing and Answer nor alter the deadline imposed for compliance with the mandate of this Order. Settlement discussion may be pursued as an alternative to, and simultaneously with, the hearing proceedings. Respondent may appear at the settlement conference alone or accompanied or represented by legal counsel.

A Stipulated Final Order shall finalize any settlement reached by the parties. The Stipulated Final Order must resolve all issues raised in this Order, shall be final and binding on all parties, and may not be appealed.

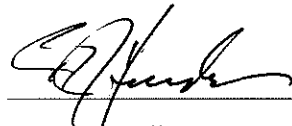
To explore the possibility of settlement in this matter, contact Maria J. Medina, Drinking Water Bureau, New Mexico Environment Department, P.O Box 5469, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469, (505) 476-8629.

COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS

Compliance with the requirements of this Order does not relieve Respondent of the obligation to comply with all other applicable laws and regulations. This Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of the requirements of 20.7.10 NMAC and 20.7.4 NMAC which remain in full force and effect. Issuance of this Order is not an election by the NMED to forgo any civil or criminal action otherwise authorized under the EIA.

TERMINATION

This Order shall terminate when Respondent certifies that all requirements of this Order have been met and the NMED has approved such certification in writing, or when the Secretary approves a Stipulated Final Order.



Bruce Yurdin
Division Director
Water Protection Division
P.O Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469


9/14/17

Date

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Administrative Compliance Order was sent on Sept. 14, 2017 via certified return receipt requested to the following:

Ralph Jaramillo
Belen Water System
100 S. Main
Belen, NM 87002



Maria J. Medina