pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

May 11, 2018

DAN BECKER AUTHORITY CHAIRMAN
EAST COCALICO TOWNSHIP 7360113
102 HILL RD
DENVER PA 17517-9148

Re: Changes to Chapter 109 - Safe Drinking Water Regulations: Disinfection Requirements Rule

Dear Public Water Supplier:

This letter is to inform you of recent changes to the Safe Drinking Water (SDW) regulations. On April 28, 2018, the Disinfection Requirements Rule (DRR) was published as a final regulation in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. One or more of the DRR provisions applies to your public water system. The purpose of the DRR is to protect public health by ensuring the adequacy of treatment designed to inactivate microbial pathogens and by ensuring the integrity of drinking water distribution systems. The full text of the DRR can be found on the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* website: https://www.pabulletin.com.

The significant requirements of the DRR fall into two categories: provisions that are effective immediately and provisions that have delayed implementation dates.

DRR Provisions Effective Immediately

- The SDWA-Summary format used to report distribution system disinfectant residual measurements is eliminated and water suppliers will no longer be required to calculate the distribution system disinfectant residual monthly average value. Instead, beginning with the May 2018 disinfectant residual data (that is reported by June 10, 2018), ***report all individual distribution system disinfectant residual measurements*** using the SDWA-1 format.

- *Please refer to the enclosed instructions.*

DRR Provisions with Delayed Implementation

- By October 29, 2018, develop and submit a DRR sampling plan. The plan must include representative locations (including dead ends, storage facilities, interconnections, areas of high water age, areas with previous RTCR detects, and mixing zones) and a sample collection schedule. The plan may be combined with the RTCR sampling plan if all content elements are included.

- Beginning April 29, 2019, maintain a minimum disinfectant residual concentration in the distribution system of at least 0.2 mg/L.

    - Disinfectant residual measurements must continue to be collected at representative locations at the same time and location(s) as coliform samples.

- Disinfectant residual measurements must also be conducted *at least once/week.* Water systems that do not collect at least 1 coliform sample each week will need to conduct additional disinfectant residual measurements each week that a coliform sample is not collected.

- Any location that has a disinfectant residual less than 0.2 mg/L in a month must also be sampled the following month. The Heterotrophic Plate Count alternative compliance criteria is eliminated.

Method 334.0 for Disinfectant Residual Measurements

- Pennsylvania's SDW regulations require that sampling and analysis for compliance monitoring are conducted in accordance with analytical techniques approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Method 334.0 was published in 2009 by the EPA and specifies the quality control practices for measuring chlorine disinfectant residuals for compliance purposes to ensure that these measurements are accurate.

- Water systems conducting compliance measurements for free or total chlorine residual need to ensure both the analyst(s) and equipment used are compliant with Method 334.0 quality control practices.

- *Please refer to the enclosed Fact Sheet for additional information.*

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will conduct training events in 2018 to explain the DRR and Method 334.0. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact your local DEP district office or me at 717.787.9633.

Sincerely,

Dawn Hissner
Environmental Program Manager
Operations Monitoring and Compliance Division

Enclosures

cc: DEP District Office