

STATE OF OKLAHOMA
PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM
Executive Summary of the 2021 Annual Compliance Report

The State of Oklahoma's Public Water Supply Program currently oversees one thousand three hundred thirty-four (1,334) public water supplies (PWS) that meet the federal definition of a PWS. The grand total number of violations for the calendar year of 2021 was five thousand eighty-six (5,086). Some public water systems may be counted more than once if they incurred multiple violations. The actual total number of public water systems in violation for MCL was one hundred eighty-eight (188). Of the one thousand three hundred thirty-four (1,334) systems, one thousand one hundred forty-six (1,146) or eighty-six percent (86%) of these systems reported no maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations. Five hundred ten (510) systems or thirty-eight percent (38%) of the one thousand three hundred and thirty-four (1,334) PWS's incurred a violation at some point during the calendar year of 2021.

Three (3) systems had thirteen (13) violations for exceeding the MCL for arsenic. Three (3) systems had violations for arsenic monitoring. Three (3) systems had thirteen (13) violations for exceeding the MCL of the Inorganic Chemical Contaminant (IOC) group. Seven (7) systems had ten (10) violations for IOC group monitoring. Twenty-two (22) systems had forty-seven (47) violations for exceeding the nitrate MCL standard in at least one of their wells during the calendar year of 2021. Eighty-seven (87) systems had one hundred eighteen (118) nitrate monitoring violations. No systems had Synthetic Organic Contaminant (SOC) group MCL violations. Forty-seven (47) systems had one thousand four hundred fifty-one (1451) SOC monitoring contaminant violations. No systems had Volatile Organic Chemical Contaminant (VOC) group MCL violations. Fourteen (14) systems had eight hundred (800) VOC contaminant monitoring violations

Four (4) systems had five (5) Radionuclide MCL violations in the calendar year 2021. Fourteen (14) systems had one hundred sixty (160) violations for Radionuclide monitoring. One hundred fifty-five (155) systems had eight hundred nineteen (819) violations of the Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR) MCL. Seventeen (17) systems had Thirty-six (36) violations of the DBPR Treatment Technique requirement. One hundred eighty-eight (188) systems had four hundred sixty-five (465) monitoring violations for the DBPR.

One (1) system had two (2) Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Acute MCL violations, meaning two (2) mandatory Boil Orders were issued for this PWS that tested positive for E-coli. Two hundred ninety-eight (298) systems had Six hundred thirty-four (634) monitoring violations for the RTCR. Zero (0) systems had a treatment technique violation for the Lead and Copper Rule. Thirty-eight (38) systems had fifty-three (53) monitoring violations for the Lead and Copper Rule. No systems had any Ground Water Rule (GWR) Treatment Technique violations. Twenty-seven (27) systems had forty-two (42) monitoring violations for the GWR.

All surface water PWSs in Oklahoma are required to provide filtration. Thirteen (13) systems had sixty (60) Surface Water Rule (SWR) treatment technique violations. Twenty-four (24) systems had ninety-two (92) SWTR monitoring violations. There were eighty-seven (87) systems with eighty-seven (87) violations for failure to submit a consumer confidence report

(CCR). Eighteen (18) systems had one hundred seventy-six (176) violations for failure to do Public Notification (PN).

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality issued two thousand nine hundred forty-eight (2,948) enforcement actions in response to the violations listed in this report. These enforcement actions consisted of two thousand seven hundred four (2,704) informal enforcement letters. Two hundred forty (240) Notices of Violation (NOVs)/Consent Orders (COs), zero (0) Administrative Compliance Orders (ACO), and four (4) Boil Orders were administered. One thousand three hundred eighteen (1,318) systems were returned to compliance during the calendar year of 2021.

An informal enforcement document is the first document issued to facilities when they fail to monitor. A Notice of Violation is the first formal enforcement document issued to facilities when they exceed maximum allowable levels or fail to meet Department of Environmental Quality rules and regulations concerning matters such as construction deficiencies or operating procedures. A Consent Order is typically the next order issued. The Consent Order is an order that contains an agreement between the water system and the DEQ and details the tasks and deadlines for correcting the cited violation. An Administrative Compliance Order is an order that is issued when time is limited, and there is a significant health hazard, or the water system refuses to agree to the Consent Order. Both the Consent Order and the Administrative Compliance Order have stipulated penalties for failing to meet the required deadlines. Boil Orders are issued to systems that have “acute” or “fecal positive” bacteriological violations. Boil Orders can also be issued for exceedance of turbidity standards, insufficient chlorine residuals, and low pressure. Boil Orders require immediate notice to all consumers in order inform the public of how to make their water safe for Human consumption

Copies of the full report and executive summary are available to the public from the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, 8th Floor, 707 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma or can be requested by mail at Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, P.O. Box 1677, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73101-1677. The full document is also available on the Water Quality Division website.