



Public Health Department

Cathy A. Raevsky, Director
Andy Miller, M.D., Health Officer

Environmental Health

202 Mira Loma Drive
Oroville, California 95965

T: 530.538.7281
F: 530.538.5339

buttecounty.net/publichealth

To: Distribution Operators working in Butte County

From: Butte County Environmental Health

Subject: Minimum Roles and Responsibilities of a Certified Operator for a Public Water System (PWS)

Date: August 2015

Community and non-transient non-community water systems, including those that provide no treatment of their water, are required to have certified distribution operators (H&SC §106885). It has come to this Department's attention, due to recent inspections, that a number of Butte County water systems are not properly maintained as per the California Code of Regulations, section 63770. It is imperative to the wellbeing of these water systems they obtain certified distribution operators who provide a responsible and reliable service.

- ❖ Responsible for day to day operations of the water system.
 - A contracted certified operator should spend approximately 1 hour on-site daily, however, certified operators can supervise the water system without being present daily if working with a person (manager, etc.) who is responsible for the system on a daily basis.
- ❖ Routine visual inspections of the following: source, source water protection, storage facilities, chemical treatment.
- ❖ Develop and maintain site plan of source and distribution.
- ❖ Responsible for chemical supplies/additions.
 - Calculate and test disinfectants.
- ❖ Maintain distribution system and storage facilities.
 - Conduct adequate flushing programs.
- ❖ Collect or oversee collection of specified water samples.
 - Maintain a sample monitoring schedule.
- ❖ Inspect water system within 24 hours of fecal/second Total Coliform positive result or other water system failures.
 - Issue public notices when required in conjunction with system owner.
- ❖ Monitor and record quantity of water pumped from source.



Distribution Operators Working in Butte County

Page -2-

- ❖ Attend all inspections by regulatory agency.
- ❖ Respond to consumer complaints and maintain a complaint log.
- ❖ Oversee/monitor all repairs performed on the system.
- ❖ Eliminate/protect distribution system against cross connections.
- ❖ Attend required training programs for certification and remain current in drinking water regulations and safety regulations.
- ❖ Notify owner or responsible person of state regulation violations.

If there are any question regarding this information, please call Amanda Aguiar at (530) 538-5327 or email: aaguiar@buttecounty.net.