





Environmental Protection Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

Re: Ottawa County
Lake Erie Utilities Company
TNC Water System
PWS ID# 6201911

December 1, 2011

Mr. Jim Arvin, President
Lake Erie Utilities Company
P. O. Box 29
Middle Bass, Ohio 43446

Subject: Notice of Violation – Failure to meet the treatment technique turbidity requirements in rules 3745-81-71 through 3748-81-75 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) – September 2011

Dear Mr. Arvin:

Lake Erie Utilities Company failed to provide sufficient filtration of its drinking water when the turbidity levels of representative samples of its filtered water were not less than or equal to 0.3 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) in at least 95% of the samples analyzed during the September 2011, monitoring period. This is a violation of OAC Rule 3745-81-73(A)(1).

Actions required as a result of the above violation	
Step 1	Within 30 days issue the attached public notice of the violation in accordance with rule 3745-81-32 of the Ohio Administrative Code by the following method(s) to reach all persons served by the public water system: Posting the notice in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system frequented by persons served by the system, or by mail or direct delivery to each customer and service connection (where known). If the public notice is posted, the notice shall remain in place for as long as the violation or situation persists, but in no case for less than seven days, even if the violation or situation is resolved; and Any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons served by the system if they would not normally be reached by the notice. Such persons may include those served who may not see a posted notice because the posted notice is not in a location they routinely pass by. Other methods may include: publication in a local newspaper or newsletter distributed to customers; use of E-mail to notify employees or students and parents or legal guardians; or delivery of multiple copies in central locations (e.g., community centers).
Step 2	Initiate an investigation and take the necessary steps to correct the problem as soon as possible.
Step 3	Within 10 days of completing Step 1, fill out the attached verification form and send it along with a copy of the public notification issued to the Northwest District Office of Ohio EPA.

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (419) 373-4118.

Sincerely,



Justin Bowerman
Environmental Specialist 3
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

/llr

pc: Ottawa County Health Department
Donald Daley, Uni-Tech Environmental (include enclosures)
Julie Gillenwater, DDAGW, CO
Toni Buchanan, DDAGW, CO
DDAGW, NWDO File (include enclosures)

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Lake Erie Utilities Company Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

We routinely monitor our water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water samples for September 2011 showed that 100 percent of turbidity measurements were more than 0.3 turbidity units. The standard is no more than 5 percent of samples may exceed 0.3 turbidity units per month. The turbidity levels are relatively low. However, their persistence is a concern.

What should I do?

- *Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly people may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.*
- The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What is being done?

We are investigating and taking the necessary steps to correct the problem as soon as possible.

For more information, please contact _____ at _____ or _____.
name of contact phone number mailing address

General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

PWSID#: OH6201911 Date distributed: _____



