*CONFIDENTIAL*

**WEEKLY HOT TOPICS REPORT for RA/DRA Region 8**

**Week ending June 29, 2018**

## OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS PROTECTION AND REMEDIATION

*No report*

## OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT, COMPLIANCE & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

**SDWA Enforcement Issued an Emergency Administrative Order to the Lodgepole Housing Water System on the Fort Belknap Reservation in Montana**

Key Message: On June 19, 2018, EPA issued a 1431 Order in response to a potential imminent and substantial endangerment at Lodgepole Housing Water System located on the Fort Belknap Reservation in Montana.

- On June 13th, the Prairie Mountain Utility Director notified EPA of a pump failure the previous day. Operators at the system opened the valve that interconnects the Agnes Leggins Water System to the system to provide potable water to the System's residents.
- On June 18th, the operator notified EPA that the Agnes Leggins water pressure was dropping; thus, they closed the valve interconnecting the two systems to allow pressure to build up at Agnes Leggins.
- The utility director informed the Tribal Council of the issue and a new pump for the well at the system is expected to be installed on June 27th.
- The Tribe proactively delivered bottled water last week when the pump went down and the temporary source of water was connected.
- Loss of pressure in a drinking water distribution system may cause backsiphonage, which can allow disease causing organisms to enter the distribution system.
- EPA will consult with the utility director to reiterate the requirement to provide an alternative source of water and post/deliver boil water advisory immediately; disinfect and flush the system after making repairs; and the boil advisory must remain in effect until notified by EPA.
- The system serves 70 residents.
- The system issued a public notice (boil water advisory) and is in the process of performing corrective actions.
- R8's Water Enforcement Director has coordinated with OECA.
- Technical Contact: Kathelene Brainich 312-6481; Management Contact: Tiffany Cantor, 312-6521

**Sanitary Sewer Overflow in Eagle Butte, South Dakota on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation; No Surface Water or Drinking Water Impacts**

Key Message: NPDES Enforcement was informed of an ongoing sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) that began on June 15, 2018 in Eagle Butte, South Dakota from a former Indian Health Service (IHS) campus now occupied by the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (Tribe). No surface waters or drinking water intakes have been or are likely to be impacted based on current information.

- EPA was notified of the SSO via a phone conversation and emails from IHS on June 18, 2018. The SSO was discovered on June 15th. The SSO occurred at a lift station on the IHS property and appeared to be a result of a blockage of debris within the IHS service lines. There are six houses that discharge to the lift station, and not all houses are occupied. As such, the SSO was fairly small.



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- The sewer line and lift station are part of the IHS property, and the Tribe has a license to utilize the property through an agreement that includes a requirement for the Tribe to maintain it, including the 250 feet of associated sewer lines.
- The blocked sewer line has been jetted with assistance from the City of Eagle Butte and associated debris was collected. The Tribe has a contractor servicing the lift station to ensure it is operational.
- There are no NPDES permit requirements on private service lines to the city's sewer system. According to IHS and city representatives, the sewage did not leave the immediate area and did not impact any surface water. No further action by NPDES Enforcement is planned at this time.
- The EPA directly implements the NPDES program in Indian country.
- Management Contact: Stephanie DeJong 312-6362

**OPA Enforcement Plans to send Request for Information to FDL Operating, LLC for four discharges of oil and produced water in Natrona County, Wyoming**

Key Message: The planned Request for Information will seek information to determine the extent of discharges of crude oil and produced water from spills into Waters of the U.S.

- On September 13, 2017, ECEJ sent an information request to FDL for twelve spills which occurred between June 2015 – March 2017. The discharges at the twelve locations totaled approximately 1,000 barrels (42,000 gallons) of oil and produced water. Three of the discharges occurred in Johnson County and nine discharges occurred in Natrona County, WY.
- FDL submitted their response in November 2017.
- Since the November 2017 response, four more spills from FDL were reported to the National Response Center in January, May, and June 2018.
- Contact: Donna Inman, 312-6201; Management Contact: Ken Champagne 312-6608

**OPA Enforcement Team to Conduct Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Inspections on the Flathead Reservation, Montana**

Key Message: The planned Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) inspections in Lake County will occur on June 28-29, 2018.

- The Region has coordinated with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe's Environmental Director on these inspections.
- The EPA directly implements the SPCC Program in Region 8.
- The purpose of the inspections is to verify compliance with the SPCC requirements, based on Region 8's high priority inspection targeting approach..
- The OPA Enforcement Team works closely with the Oil Program to conduct SPCC inspections.
- Technical Contact: Donna Inman 312-6201; Management Contact: Ken Champagne 312-6608

**OPA Enforcement and Emergency Response Units to visit Keller Transport spill site on June 27, 2018, on the Flathead Reservation, Lake County, Montana**

Key Message: OPA Enforcement Team and Emergency Response Unit to visit Keller Transport spill site to evaluate proposed site closure provisions required under an EPA compliance order.

- On May 22, 2008, Region 8 issued an Administrative Order under 311(c) and (e) CWA and 7003 RCRA to Keller Transport for the cleanup of a tanker truck gasoline spill that occurred on April 2, 2008. The spill occurred approximately 500 feet from the shores of Flathead Lake within the exterior boundaries of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation. The gasoline immediately sank into the ground and traveled through cracks and fissures toward the lake and under several homes. Vapors from the gasoline built up in homes, necessitating the evacuation of five homes.

- Remediation activities have been ongoing since the spill, including installation of air abatement systems in the five affected homes, installation of a groundwater collection and treatment system, and regular indoor air and groundwater monitoring.
- On April 25, 2018, Keller proposed the interim shutdown of the treatment systems with a period of monitoring and evaluation through fall of this year. The interim shutdown would be followed by submittal of a permanent shutdown plan and design.
- In addition to visiting the spill site, Region 8 will meet with the affected homeowners to discuss the closure provisions. Region 8's Office of Communication & Public Involvement will assist in this meeting with the homeowners.
- The Region has coordinated with the Tribe on this site visit.
- Technical SPCC Contact: Donna K. Inman 312-6201; Management Contact: Ken Champagne 312-6608;
- EPR OSC Contact: Joyce Ackerman 312-6822; Management Contact: Laura Williams 312-6680
- OCPI Contact: Katherine Jenkins 312-6351

**OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND REGULATORY ASSISTANCE**
*No report*

**OFFICE OF TECHNICAL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES**
*No report*

**OFFICE OF WATER PROTECTION**
*No report*



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