Consumer Confidence Report - Required Components

Oregon DHS Public Health Division – Drinking Water Program

General Water System Information:

- \Box Contact person's name and phone number
- □ List of opportunities for public participation (board/city council meetings, protection committees, etc.)
- □ Systems that have a large proportion of non-English speaking residents must state in the appropriate language that the report contains important information and should be translated.

Source Information:

- □ List all sources used, including the commonly used name(s), type (ground water, surface water or a blend), and the general location(s). Include water purchased from another supplier.
- □ State that a source assessment is available for customer's review (you should have a copy). Include a brief summary of your source water's susceptibility to contamination based on the findings of the assessment.

Definitions:

- □ Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- □ Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- □ Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Include the following only if your report contains information on these topics:

- □ Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- □ Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- □ Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

Detected Contaminants:

- □ Present the <u>most recent detection of all regulated contaminants in a table format</u>, but you need only search for the <u>most recent detect</u> up to five (5) years back. Any detect older than five years does not need to be reported. For contaminants monitored less than once per year, state in the table the date the sample was collected, and include a statement in the CCR that the data is the most recent monitoring done in compliance with regulations. Do not list non-detects (ND) in the table
- □ The table must contain the following for each detected contaminant: the MCL in units that express it as a number greater than 1, the MCLG and level of the detected contaminant in the same units as the MCL, the likely source of each contaminant, and the AL or treatment technique if applicable.
- □ If there was more than one detection for a contaminant when sampling annually or less frequently, report the range of values, even if one was ND. If compliance is determined by a running annual average, include the highest average and the range of detections.

- □ For turbidity, report the highest single measurement found if exempted from filtration, the highest single measurement and the lowest monthly % of samples meeting the turbidity limits if required to filter.
- □ For total coliform, report the highest number of positive samples in any one month. If 40 or more samples per month, report the highest percentage of positive samples collected in any one month.
- □ For fecal coliforms and *E. coli* report the number of positive samples collected that year.
- □ If there are multiple entry points to a distribution system, look at the results from all the entry points and report the detect data from the entry point with the highest level detected for the each contaminant, and also list the range of detects from highest to lowest detect for each contaminant, even if one was non-detected (ND).
- □ Detections of unregulated contaminants for which monitoring is required must appear in the main table. An explanation of the reasons for unregulated contaminant monitoring is optional.

Cryptosporidium and Radon:

□ If monitoring shows the presence of these contaminants, the results must be presented along with an explanation of the significance of the results.

Violations of Standards:

- □ Any contaminant detected in violation of an MCL, TT or AL must be clearly highlighted in the table, and an explanation of the length of the violation/exceedance, the potential adverse health effects, and actions taken to address the violation/exceedance must be provided.
- □ For any other violations (for example: failing to collect or report required samples on time), clear and readily understandable explanations of the violation, potential adverse health effects (if any), and the steps taken to correct the violation must be provided.
- □ For failure to install adequate filtration or disinfection equipment or processes, or if there was a failure of that equipment or process, the following language must be included: "Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches."

Educational Information - your CCR must prominently display the following statements:

- □ "Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426¬4791)."
- □ "Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)."
- □ "If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. *[NAME OF UTILITY]* is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water

tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at *www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*

□ Your report must contain basic information about drinking water contaminants. Use the following language, or you may write your own comparable language that better fits your specific local situation:

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.*
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.*

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Special Requirements for Nitrate and Arsenic:

- □ For nitrate above 5 ppm but below 10 ppm (the MCL) see EPA guidance Section 4, Item 6 for wording.
- □ For arsenic above 5 ppb, but at or below 10 ppb (the MCL) see EPA guidance Section 4, Item 6 for wording.

Delivery:

- □ Mail or deliver to each customer by July 1 of each year, plus a "good faith effort" to get reports to non-bill-paying consumers (renters and workers).
- □ Mail a copy of the report to DHS-DWP by July 1 of each year. DHS-DWP will maintain a copy for one year only, systems must keep a copy for at least five years.
- □ Mail a certification statement to DHS-DWP by October 1 of each year that confirms the report was distributed to customers, and the information is correct and consistent with data submitted to the state. A sample certification form is on the Drinking Water web site. It is suggested, to avoid overlooking the certification form, that the completed certification form be mailed along with the CCR, if the CCR has been distributed to customers.

For more detailed guidance, see the document EPA 816-R-05-002, "Preparing Your Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report," available online at *www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/compliancehelp.html* Also see additional guidance on the Drinking Water web site at <u>www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/dwp</u>.