

Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 50359
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
RN100655489
Docket No. 2015-0546-PWS-E

Order Type:

Findings Agreed Order

Findings Order Justification:

Three or more enforcement actions (NOVs, orders, etc.) over the prior five year period for the same violation(s).

Media:

PWS

Small Business:

No

Location(s) Where Violation(s) Occurred:

Amarillo Veterans Affairs Health Care System, 6010 West Amarillo Boulevard, Amarillo, Potter County

Type of Operation:

Hospital with a public water supply

Other Significant Matters:

Additional Pending Enforcement Actions: No

Past-Due Penalties: No

Other: N/A

Interested Third-Parties: None

Texas Register Publication Date: October 23, 2015

Comments Received: No

Penalty Information

Total Penalty Assessed: \$157

Amount Deferred for Expedited Settlement: \$0

Amount Deferred for Financial Inability to Pay: \$0

Total Paid to General Revenue: \$157

Total Due to General Revenue: \$0

Payment Plan: N/A

Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP") Conditional Offset: \$0

Name of SEP: N/A

Compliance History Classifications:

Person/CN - High

Site/RN - High

Major Source: No

Statutory Limit Adjustment: N/A

Applicable Penalty Policy: April 2014

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RN100655489
Docket No. 2015-0546-PWS-E

Investigation Information

Complaint Date(s): N/A

Complaint Information: N/A

Date(s) of Investigation: March 23, 2015 through April 3, 2015

Date(s) of NOE(s): April 3, 2015

Violation Information

Failed to comply with the maximum contaminant level ("MCL") of 0.080 milligrams per liter for total trihalomethanes ("TTHM") based on the locational running annual average [30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 290.115(f)(1) and TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 341.0315(c)].

Corrective Actions/Technical Requirements

Corrective Action(s) Completed:

N/A

Technical Requirements:

The Order will require the Respondent to:

- a. Within 365 days, return to compliance with the MCL for TTHM based on the locational running annual average; and
- b. Within 380 days, submit written certification to demonstrate compliance with a.

Litigation Information

Date Petition(s) Filed: N/A

Date Answer(s) Filed: N/A

SOAH Referral Date: N/A

Hearing Date(s): N/A

Settlement Date: N/A

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Contact Information

TCEQ Attorney: N/A

TCEQ Enforcement Coordinator: Austin Henck, Enforcement Division,
Enforcement Team 3, MC 169, (512) 239-6155; Candy Garrett, Enforcement Division,
MC 219, (512) 239-1456

TCEQ SEP Coordinator: N/A

Respondent: Paul Orogo, Chief of Engineering, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,
6010 West Amarillo Boulevard, Amarillo, Texas 79106
Steve Bass, Assistant Chief Engineer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 6010 West
Amarillo Boulevard, Amarillo, Texas 79106

Respondent's Attorney: N/A



Penalty Calculation Worksheet (PCW)

Policy Revision 4 (April 2014)

PCW Revision March 26, 2014

DATES	Assigned	6-Apr-2015	Screening	7-Apr-2015	EPA Due	30-Jun-2015
	PCW	13-Apr-2015				

RESPONDENT/FACILITY INFORMATION			
Respondent	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs		
Reg. Ent. Ref. No.	RN100655489		
Facility/Site Region	1-Amarillo	Major/Minor Source	Minor

CASE INFORMATION			
Enf./Case ID No.	50359	No. of Violations	1
Docket No.	2015-0546-PWS-E	Order Type	Findings
Media Program(s)	Public Water Supply	Government/Non-Profit	Yes
Multi-Media		Enf. Coordinator	Austin Henck
		EC's Team	Enforcement Team 3
Admin. Penalty \$ Limit Minimum	\$50	Maximum	\$1,000

Penalty Calculation Section

TOTAL BASE PENALTY (Sum of violation base penalties) **Subtotal 1**

ADJUSTMENTS (+/-) TO SUBTOTAL 1

Subtotals 2-7 are obtained by multiplying the Total Base Penalty (Subtotal 1) by the indicated percentage.

Compliance History Enhancement **Subtotals 2, 3, & 7**

Notes: Reduction for High Performer Classification and enhancement for three NOVs with same/similar violations.

Culpability Enhancement **Subtotal 4**

Notes: The Respondent does not meet the culpability criteria.

Good Faith Effort to Comply Total Adjustments **Subtotal 5**

Economic Benefit Enhancement* **Subtotal 6**

Total EB Amounts
 Estimated Cost of Compliance
 *Capped at the Total EB \$ Amount

SUM OF SUBTOTALS 1-7 **Final Subtotal**

OTHER FACTORS AS JUSTICE MAY REQUIRE **Adjustment**

Reduces or enhances the Final Subtotal by the indicated percentage.

Notes

Final Penalty Amount

STATUTORY LIMIT ADJUSTMENT **Final Assessed Penalty**

DEFERRAL Reduction **Adjustment**

Reduces the Final Assessed Penalty by the indicated percentage. (Enter number only; e.g. 20 for 20% reduction.)

Notes

No deferral is recommended for Findings Orders.

PAYABLE PENALTY

Screening Date 7-Apr-2015

Docket No. 2015-0546-PWS-E

PCW

Respondent U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Policy Revision 4 (April 2014)

Case ID No. 50359

PCW Revision March 26, 2014

Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN100655489

Media [Statute] Public Water Supply

Enf. Coordinator Austin Henck

Compliance History Worksheet

>> **Compliance History Site Enhancement (Subtotal 2)**

Component	Number of...	Enter Number Here	Adjust.
NOVs	Written notices of violation ("NOVs") with same or similar violations as those in the current enforcement action (<i>number of NOVs meeting criteria</i>)	3	15%
	Other written NOVs	0	0%
Orders	Any agreed final enforcement orders containing a denial of liability (<i>number of orders meeting criteria</i>)	0	0%
	Any adjudicated final enforcement orders, agreed final enforcement orders without a denial of liability, or default orders of this state or the federal government, or any final prohibitory emergency orders issued by the commission	0	0%
Judgments and Consent Decrees	Any non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees containing a denial of liability of this state or the federal government (<i>number of judgments or consent decrees meeting criteria</i>)	0	0%
	Any adjudicated final court judgments and default judgments, or non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees without a denial of liability, of this state or the federal government	0	0%
Convictions	Any criminal convictions of this state or the federal government (<i>number of counts</i>)	0	0%
Emissions	Chronic excessive emissions events (<i>number of events</i>)	0	0%
Audits	Letters notifying the executive director of an intended audit conducted under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 (<i>number of audits for which notices were submitted</i>)	0	0%
	Disclosures of violations under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 (<i>number of audits for which violations were disclosed</i>)	0	0%
<i>Please Enter Yes or No</i>			
Other	Environmental management systems in place for one year or more	No	0%
	Voluntary on-site compliance assessments conducted by the executive director under a special assistance program	No	0%
	Participation in a voluntary pollution reduction program	No	0%
	Early compliance with, or offer of a product that meets future state or federal government environmental requirements	No	0%

Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 2) 15%

>> **Repeat Violator (Subtotal 3)**

No

Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 3) 0%

>> **Compliance History Person Classification (Subtotal 7)**

High Performer

Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 7) -10%

>> **Compliance History Summary**

Compliance History Notes

Reduction for High Performer Classification and enhancement for three NOVs with same/similar violations.

Total Compliance History Adjustment Percentage (Subtotals 2, 3, & 7) 5%

>> **Final Compliance History Adjustment**

Final Adjustment Percentage *capped at 100% 5%

Screening Date 7-Apr-2015 Docket No. 2015-0546-PWS-E

PCW

Respondent U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Policy Revision 4 (April 2014)

Case ID No. 50359

PCW Revision March 26, 2014

Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN100655489

Media [Statute] Public Water Supply

Enf. Coordinator Austin Henck

Violation Number 1

Rule Cite(s) 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 290.115(f)(1) and Tex. Health & Safety Code § 341.0315(c)

Violation Description Failed to comply with the maximum contaminant level ("MCL") of 0.080 milligrams per liter ("mg/L") for total trihalomethanes ("TTHM"), based on the locational running annual average. Specifically, the locational running annual average concentrations for TTHM for Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Site 1 were 0.113 mg/L for the third quarter of 2014, 0.115 mg/L for the fourth quarter of 2014, and 0.125 mg/L for the first quarter of 2015.

Base Penalty \$1,000

>> Environmental, Property and Human Health Matrix

OR

Release	Harm		
	Major	Moderate	Minor
Actual		X	
Potential			

Percent 15.0%

>> Programmatic Matrix

Falsification	Major	Moderate	Minor

Percent 0.0%

Matrix Notes Exceeding the MCL for TTHM caused persons served by the Facility to be exposed to significant amounts of pollutants which do not exceed levels protective of human health.

Adjustment \$850

\$150

Violation Events

Number of Violation Events 1 Number of violation days 273

daily	
weekly	
monthly	
quarterly	
semiannual	
annual	X
single event	

mark only one with an x

Violation Base Penalty \$150

One annual event is recommended.

Good Faith Efforts to Comply

0.0%

Reduction \$0

Before NOE/NOV NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer

Extraordinary		
Ordinary		
N/A	X	(mark with x)

Notes The Respondent does not meet the good faith criteria for this violation.

Violation Subtotal \$150

Economic Benefit (EB) for this violation

Statutory Limit Test

Estimated EB Amount \$775

Violation Final Penalty Total \$158

This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits) \$158

Economic Benefit Worksheet

Respondent U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Case ID No. 50359
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN100655489
Media Public Water Supply
Violation No. 1

Percent Interest	Years of Depreciation
5.0	15

Item Description	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Onetime Costs	EB Amount
No commas or \$							

Delayed Costs

Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Buildings				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)	\$5,000	30-Sep-2014	16-Dec-2016	2.21	\$37	\$738	\$775
Engineering/Construction				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Record Keeping System				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Training/Sampling				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Remediation/Disposal				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Permit Costs				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0

Notes for DELAYED costs

The delayed cost includes the estimated amount to implement an alternative method of disinfection necessary to return to compliance, calculated from the last day of the first quarter of noncompliance to the estimated date of compliance.

Avoided Costs

ANNUALIZE [1] avoided costs before entering item (except for one-time avoided costs)

Disposal				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Assurance [2]				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs [3]				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0

Notes for AVOIDED costs

Approx. Cost of Compliance

\$5,000

TOTAL

\$775

The TCEQ is committed to accessibility.

To request a more accessible version of this report, please contact the TCEQ Help Desk at (512) 239-4357.



TCEQ Compliance History Report

PUBLISHED Compliance History Report for CN602854846, RN100655489, Rating Year 2014 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2009, through August 31, 2014.

Customer, Respondent, or Owner/Operator: CN602854846, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs **Classification:** HIGH **Rating:** 0.00

Regulated Entity: RN100655489, Amarillo VA Health Care System **Classification:** HIGH **Rating:** 0.00

Complexity Points: 3 **Repeat Violator:** NO

CH Group: 09 - Construction

Location: 6010 WEST AMARILLO BOULEVARD, AMARILLO, POTTER COUNTY, TEXAS

TCEQ Region: REGION 01 - AMARILLO

ID Number(s):

PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK REGISTRATION
REGISTRATION 21813

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM/SUPPLY REGISTRATION
1880058

AIR NEW SOURCE PERMITS REGISTRATION 94331

Compliance History Period: September 01, 2009 to August 31, 2014 **Rating Year:** 2014 **Rating Date:** 09/01/2014

Date Compliance History Report Prepared: April 07, 2015

Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History: Enforcement

Component Period Selected: May 26, 2010 to May 26, 2015

TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding This Compliance History.

Name: Austin Henck **Phone:** (512) 239-6155

Site and Owner/Operator History:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1) Has the site been in existence and/or operation for the full five year compliance period? | YES |
| 2) Has there been a (known) change in ownership/operator of the site during the compliance period? | NO |
| 3) If YES for #2, who is the current owner/operator? | N/A |
| 4) If YES for #2, who was/were the prior owner(s)/operator(s)? | N/A |
| 5) If YES , when did the change(s) in owner or operator occur? | N/A |

Components (Multimedia) for the Site Are Listed in Sections A - J

A. Final Orders, court judgments, and consent decrees:

N/A

B. Criminal convictions:

N/A

C. Chronic excessive emissions events:

N/A

D. The approval dates of investigations (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.):

Item 1	May 26, 2011	(922489)
Item 2	February 29, 2012	(988357)
Item 3	May 24, 2012	(1001466)
Item 4	May 17, 2013	(1078379)
Item 5	November 26, 2013	(1134072)
Item 6	January 14, 2015	(1217815)

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



IN THE MATTER OF AN
ENFORCEMENT ACTION
CONCERNING
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS
RN100655489

§
§
§
§
§
§

BEFORE THE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

AGREED ORDER
DOCKET NO. 2015-0546-PWS-E

At its _____ agenda, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ("Respondent") under the authority of TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE ch. 341. The Executive Director of the TCEQ, through the Enforcement Division, and the Respondent presented this agreement to the Commission.

The Respondent understands that it has certain procedural rights at certain points in the enforcement process, including, but not limited to, the right to formal notice of violations, notice of an evidentiary hearing, the right to an evidentiary hearing, and a right to appeal. By entering into this Agreed Order, the Respondent agrees to waive all notice and procedural rights.

It is further understood and agreed that this Order represents the complete and fully-integrated settlement of the parties. The provisions of this Agreed Order are deemed severable and, if a court of competent jurisdiction or other appropriate authority deems any provision of this Agreed Order unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be valid and enforceable. The duties and responsibilities imposed by this Agreed Order are binding upon the Respondent.

The Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent owns and operates a hospital with a public water supply located at 6010 West Amarillo Boulevard in Amarillo, Potter County, Texas (the "Facility") that has

approximately one service connection and serves at least 25 people per day for at least 60 days per year.

2. During a record review conducted from March 23, 2015 through April 3, 2015, TCEQ staff documented that the locational running annual average concentrations for total trihalomethanes ("TTHM") for Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Site 1 were 0.113 milligrams per liter ("mg/L") for the third quarter of 2014, 0.115 mg/L for the fourth quarter of 2014, and 0.125 mg/L for the first quarter of 2015.
3. The Respondent received notice of the violations on April 6, 2015.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the TCEQ pursuant to TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE ch. 341 and the rules of the Commission.
2. As evidenced by Findings of Fact No. 2, the Respondent failed to comply with the maximum contaminant level ("MCL") of 0.080 mg/L for TTHM, based on the locational running annual average, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 290.115(f)(1) and TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 341.0315(c).
3. Pursuant to TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 341.049, the Commission has the authority to assess an administrative penalty against the Respondent for violations of the Texas Water Code and the Texas Health and Safety Code within the Commission's jurisdiction; for violations of rules adopted under such statutes; or for violations of orders or permits issued under such statutes.
4. An administrative penalty in the amount of One Hundred Fifty-Seven Dollars (\$157) is justified by the facts recited in this Agreed Order, and considered in light of the factors set forth in TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 341.049(b). The Respondent has paid the One Hundred Fifty-Seven Dollar (\$157) administrative penalty.

III. ORDERING PROVISIONS

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ORDERS that:

1. The Respondent is assessed an administrative penalty in the amount of One Hundred Fifty-Seven Dollars (\$157) as set forth in Section II, Paragraph 4 above, for violations of TCEQ rules and state statutes. The payment of this administrative penalty and the Respondent's compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order completely resolve the violations set forth by this Agreed Order in this action. However, the Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from requiring corrective actions or penalties for other violations that are not raised here. Administrative penalty

payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Docket No. 2015-0546-PWS-E" to:

Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section
Attention: Cashier's Office, MC 214
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13088
Austin, Texas 78711-3088

2. The Respondent shall undertake the following technical requirements:
 - a. Within 365 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, return to compliance with the MCL for TTHM based on the locational running annual average, in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 290.115.
 - b. Within 380 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, submit written certification as described below, and include detailed supporting documentation including photographs, receipts, and/or other records to demonstrate compliance with Ordering Provision No. 2.a. The certification shall be notarized by a State of Texas Notary Public and include the following certification language:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted and all attached documents, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

The certification shall be submitted to:

Order Compliance Team
Enforcement Division, MC 149A
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

with a copy to:

Public Drinking Water Section Manager
Water Supply Division, MC 155
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

3. The provisions of this Agreed Order shall apply to and be binding upon the Respondent. The Respondent is ordered to give notice of the Agreed Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Facility operations referenced in this Agreed Order.
4. The Executive Director may grant an extension of any deadline in this Agreed Order or in any plan, report, or other document submitted pursuant to this Agreed Order, upon a written and substantiated showing of good cause. All requests for extensions by the Respondent shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. Extensions are not effective until the Respondent receives written approval from the Executive Director. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with the Executive Director.
5. The Executive Director may refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas ("OAG") for further enforcement proceedings without notice to the Respondent if the Executive Director determines that the Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Agreed Order.
6. This Agreed Order shall terminate five years from its effective date or upon compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order, whichever is later.
7. This Agreed Order, issued by the Commission, shall not be admissible against the Respondent in a civil proceeding, unless the proceeding is brought by the OAG to: (1) enforce the terms of this Agreed Order; or (2) pursue violations of a statute within the Commission's jurisdiction, or of a rule adopted or an order or permit issued by the Commission under such a statute.
8. This Agreed Order may be executed in separate and multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single instrument. Any page of this Agreed Order may be copied, scanned, digitized, converted to electronic portable document format ("pdf"), or otherwise reproduced and may be transmitted by digital or electronic transmission, including but not limited to facsimile transmission and electronic mail. Any signature affixed to this Agreed Order shall constitute an original signature for all purposes and may be used, filed, substituted, or issued for any purpose for which an original signature could be used. The term "signature" shall include manual signatures and true and accurate reproductions of manual signatures created, executed, endorsed, adopted, or authorized by the person or persons to whom the signatures are attributable. Signatures may be copied or reproduced digitally, electronically, by photocopying, engraving, imprinting, lithographing, electronic mail, facsimile transmission, stamping, or any

other means or process which the Executive Director deems acceptable. In this paragraph exclusively, the terms "electronic transmission", "owner", "person", "writing", and "written" shall have the meanings assigned to them under TEX. BUS. ORG. CODE § 1.002.

9. The Chief Clerk shall provide a copy of this Agreed Order to each of the parties. By law, the effective date of this Agreed Order is the third day after the mailing date, as provided by 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(b) and TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.142.

SIGNATURE PAGE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For the Commission


For the Executive Director

11/19/15
Date

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Agreed Order in the matter of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. I am authorized to agree to the attached Agreed Order on behalf of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and do agree to the specified terms and conditions. I further acknowledge that the TCEQ, in accepting payment for the penalty amount, is materially relying on such representation.

I understand that by entering into this Agreed Order, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs waives certain procedural rights, including, but not limited to, the right to formal notice of violations addressed by this Agreed Order, notice of an evidentiary hearing, the right to an evidentiary hearing, and the right to appeal. I agree to the terms of the Agreed Order in lieu of an evidentiary hearing. This Agreed Order constitutes full and final adjudication by the Commission of the violations set forth in this Agreed Order.

I also understand that failure to comply with the Ordering Provisions, if any, in this order and/or failure to timely pay the penalty amount, may result in:

- A negative impact on compliance history;
- Greater scrutiny of any permit applications submitted;
- Referral of this case to the Attorney General's Office for contempt, injunctive relief, additional penalties, and/or attorney fees, or to a collection agency;
- Increased penalties in any future enforcement actions;
- Automatic referral to the Attorney General's Office of any future enforcement actions; and
- TCEQ seeking other relief as authorized by law.

In addition, any falsification of any compliance documents may result in criminal prosecution.


Signature

9/17/14
Date

Steve Bass
Name (Printed or typed)
Authorized Representative of
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

ASST. CHIEF ENGR.
Title

Instructions: Send the original, signed Agreed Order with penalty payment to the Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section at the address in Section III, Paragraph 1 of this Agreed Order.