

Final Field Investigators 22Jun16

L: Larry King
S: Steve Fonville
LP: Lauren Parish

L: All of the community water systems are required to be inspected at least once every three years, and what we call non-community water systems, like a well that might be providing water to a convenience store that's out in the country or, or a trailer park or church, you know, those are only required to be inspected once every five years. But we have to go out periodically and review the records and look at the water plant, you know, just, just to make sure that, that everything is as it's supposed to be. Well, we have oversight. The water systems are following the regulations. Most of them do a pretty good job.

LP: So this is going to be the Martindale Water Supply Corporation. It's located in Caldwell County. They have three wells. They are groundwater the, groundwater under the influence wells. As you can see, the San Marcus River is right behind us. That is why they are classified as groundwater under the influence. They are influenced by the surface water of the river, so they are required to treat for micro-organisms, giardia, cryptosporidium, things like that, so it's a little more stringent than a groundwater system, but not quite a surface water treatment plant. So it's a little bit of a unique system; it's kind of in between. All right, and then you still have the three wells, correct?

S: We have two active wells.

LP: Two active. So which one's inactive? Is it the one nearest the river?

S: The one closest to the river.

LP: Okay, that's what I thought.

S: Yes.

LP: They use a membrane plant, which is a, kind of a newer technology that a lot of systems don't have right now.

S: This is a MIOX system. This is how we make free chlorine. It works off food grade salt, anode, cathode, sodium goes to a waste stream, I end up with chlorine about 17,000 parts per million...

LP: Okay.

S: ...about half the concentration of bleach. This is the Allen-Bradley control unit.

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LP: Okay.

S: This device, this is where the main computer...

LP: This is what communicates with the SCADA as well?

S: Yes.

LP: Okay. So what I'm going to do now is take a water sample to ensure that the disinfection in the water is up to the standards, which is at least .2 milligrams per liter of the disinfectant. The reagent will react with the chlorine in the water, and then that's how we can kind of determine what the concentration is going to be, because this machine is called a pocket colorimeter, and it uses some, or it uses light and shoots light through the sample to tell us what the concentration is. So I wipe all my finger prints off. And we got a 1.32, which is in compliance.

S: I always look to the inspectors as giving me a hand. You know, they tip me off when something is not, is not up to, to code that I need to fix so that the public has confidence in us.

[03:05 end of video]