



# Boil Water Notices & Public Notices



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**DWA WG**

Austin, Texas

January 23, 2018



# Boil Water Notice Rule revisions



- Rule Revisions effective March 30, 2017
  - Clarifies reporting requirements
    - Notify TCEQ ASAP and at least by the end of the next business day
    - Two Certificates of Delivery (Issue AND rescind)
  - Special procedures and protective measures
    - Boiling is not always the answer!
  - Citation: Title 30 Texas Administrative Code(TAC) Chapter 290.46(q)&290.47(c)&(e)

# Special Precautions



- Citation: 30TAC290.46(q)(5)
  - “Special precautions, protective measures, and boil water notices may be required at the discretion of the executive director”



# What is a Boil Water Notice



- Precautionary Notice
  - Issued based on indicators that the water quality in the distribution system **MAY** have been compromised

# Boil Water Notice By Rule



- 30 TAC 290.46(q)
- If system drops below 20 psi
- *E. coli* is confirmed
- Inadequate disinfectant levels
- Elevated turbidity levels
- Other conditions affecting quality

# Acute MCL - BWN Advisory



- If an AMCL for *E. coli*, it is an advisory notice (contamination present!)
- **You MUST use one or more:** (method(s)  
reasonably calculated to reach ALL persons served)
  - Posting in conspicuous places
  - Radio and TV (broadcast media)
  - Hand delivery
  - Newspaper, internet, reverse 911, etc.



# Procedures to follow for a Boil Water Notice

- Identify violation or condition
- Issue Boil Water Notice
- Remedy condition
- Return PWS to normal operating parameters
- ‘Special’ sample(s)
- Rescind / Lift Boil Water Notice

# Issue Boil Water Notice



- Immediately (within 24 hours)
- Use mandatory language
- Submit notice to mass media, direct delivery, and/or continuous posting
- Notice must reach susceptible populations
- Send copy to TCEQ

*<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/microbial/notices/boilwater.html>*



# Notification of TCEQ



- Under the new rules, notify TCEQ of a Boil Water Notice within 24 hours or by the end of the next business day. You then have 10 days to send in the required paperwork.
- This applies to the rescinding of a BWN as well.

# Return to Normal Operating Procedures



- Check system:
  - Flush lines
  - Disinfection residuals
  - Distribution pressure
  - Treatment and storage facilities
  - Mechanical equipment

# Rescind COD



## Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY OF PUBLIC NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS: Rescind Boil Water Notice

Public Water System (PWS) name: \_\_\_\_\_

PWS ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Boil Water Notice Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

30 TAC 290.46(q) requires a PWS to notify customers that a boil water notice has been rescinded. A public water system shall not rescind a boil water notice until the public water system has met all the applicable requirements as described in 30 TAC 290.46(q)(6).

Indicate "X" for all requirements met and **provide documentation** with submittal:

- Sufficient water pressures (>20 psi) are consistently maintained per 30 TAC 290.47(e).
- Affected area(s) have been thoroughly flushed and adequate chlorine residual (free >0.2mg/L, chloramine >0.5mg/L) is maintained throughout the system.
- Surface Water Treatment Rule Only -- Finished water entering the system has turbidity levels consistently below 1.0 NTU.
- Specific actions required by the Executive Director have been met (describe actions): \_\_\_\_\_
- Microbiological samples, marked "Special", from representative sites in system, are analyzed by an approved lab and all results are negative for coliform organisms.

\_\_\_\_\_

# 'Special' samples



- Collect special microbiological sample(s)
- Negative results required
- Representative of distribution system or affected area

# BWN Documents to Send TCEQ

When issuing:

- Boil Water Notice
- Certificate of Delivery (Issue)

When rescinding:

- Special sample results
- BWN Rescind Notice
- Certificate of Delivery (Rescind)



# Tier I delivery requirements

30 TAC §290.122(a)(2)(B) & (C)



Community PWS must provide a copy of the acute notice to the local Media:

- Radio
- Television
- Newspaper

If no newspaper is available:

- Deliver acute notice directly to each customer, or
- Post acute notices in conspicuous places within the water system

# Notify and Send Documentation to TCEQ at:



E-mail: [pdws@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:pdws@tceq.texas.gov)

Fax: (512) 239-3666

Phone: (512)239-4691

Mail:

**TCEQ**

**Water Supply Division MC – 155,**

**Attn: Public Notice.**

**P. O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087**

Online access:

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/microbial/notices/boilwater.html>



# Tier I posting requirements

30 TAC §290.122(a)(2)(D) & (E)

## Non-Community PWS:

- Direct deliver PN to each customer and service connection, or
- Post PN in conspicuous places within the water system for seven days or for as long as the situation exists



# Tier I PN vs. Boil Water Notice (BWN)

30 TAC §290.122(a)(2)



Situations that pose an acute threat to public health but do not require a BWN:

- nitrate/nitrite MCL
- chlorine dioxide MRDL

Situations that require a BWN:

- **Revised Total Coliform Rule** acute MCL (*E. coli*)
- Combined effluent filter **turbidity** above 5.0 NTU
- Loss of Pressure below 20 psi

Deliver BWN in the same manner as the Tier I PN

# Questions?



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