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Consecutive Public Water Systems
Bacterial contamination Validation Sampling
(Year 2000 Printing)

Effective Date: 1-27-89
Program Applicability
Supersedes Policy, SOP or Guidance #:
Approved by: Arleen O'Donnell

Policy, SOP or Guideline # 88-23

This policy is adopted to provide public water systems and DWP with additional source monitoring data to assist in the determination of cause of and responsibility for bacterial contamination when discovered in a consecutive public water system.

Policy

It is the policy of the Drinking Water Program to require bacterial sampling at each source of water entering all consecutive public water systems in accordance with the following:

1. All public water suppliers who receive/purchase water (buyer) from another system (seller) must collect and analyze at least one bacteria sample at or near the master meter at each entrance to the buyer's system. (The site may be the buyer's first customer until a sampling site at the master meter becomes available).
2. The sanitary integrity and location of the sampling site must be agreed to in writing by both the seller and the buyer, and approved by the DEP regional office.
3. The sampling site must be monitored on the same schedule and frequency as the rest of the sampling sites on the buyer's system or as determined by the DEP regional office.
4. This sample will be in addition to the total number of samples required for the buying system under 310 CMR 22.05 and will not be used for calculating compliance averages unless it is at the first customer.
5. When a positive result is found at this site, the DEP/DWP Regional Office and the seller must be notified within 48 hours by telephone by the buyer and
 - The seller must be given the opportunity to participate in split check sampling.
 - The results of all sampling must be sent to the appropriate DEP/DWP regional office, and
 - The DWS regional office will use the check sample information to determine corrective action and assist in the wording of public notice, if requested.

Procedure:

1. During the conduct of a sanitary survey, existing sampling locations shall be reviewed and this policy implemented.
2. All new or modified public water system master (revenue) meters must be equipped with sampling ports and disinfection chemical injection ports after January 1, 1989, or alternative provision for disinfection chemical addition to the effect treatment at said port must be made and approved by DWP.

Adopted: 1-10-89
Effective: 1-27-89

Patricia L. Deese, P.E.
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