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| Instructions for Stage 1 DBPR Chlorine Dioxide MRDL (Tier 1) Notice – Template 1-8 |

**Template on Reverse**

If a system exceeds the chlorine dioxide MRDL when one or more of the samples taken in the distribution system on the day after exceeding the MRDL at the entrance to the distribution system or if a system does not take required samples in the distribution system, Tier 1 notification is required. You must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but no more than 24 hours from learning of the violation [40 CFR 141.202(b)]. (Exceeding the chlorine dioxide MRDL at the entry point to the distribution system only, requires Tier 2 notification; modify this template or Template 2-3 to create a Tier 2 notice.) You must also contact your primacy agency within 24 hours of learning of the violation or situation. You should also coordinate with your local health department. You must use one or more of the following methods to deliver the notice to consumers [40 CFR 141.202(c)]:

* Radio
* Television
* Hand or direct delivery
* Posting in conspicuous locations

You may need to use additional methods (e.g., newspaper, delivery of multiple copies to hospitals, clinics, or apartment buildings), since notice must be provided in a manner reasonably calculated to reach all persons served. If you post or hand deliver, print your notice on **your system’s** letterhead, if you have it.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for hand delivery or **for publication in** a newspaper**.** However, you may wish to modify it before using it for a radio or TV **broadcast.** If you do **modify the notice on the reverse**, you must still include all required **PN** elements **from 40 CFR 141.205(a)** and leave the **mandatory** language unchanged **(see below).**

Mandatory Language

Mandatory language on health effects (from Appendix B to Subpart Q) must be included as written (with blanks filled in) and is presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

You must also include standard language to encourage the distribution of the public notice to all persons served, where applicable [40 CFR 141.205(d)]. This language is also presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

Alternative Sources of Water

If you are selling or providing bottled water, your notice should say where it can be obtained. Remember that bottled water can also be contaminated. If you are providing bottled water, make sure it meets US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or state bottled water safety standards.

**Population at Risk**

The language on the reverse lists “young children” as one of the groups at increased risk. Because the potential health effects of chlorine dioxide are based on tests on laboratory animals, there is no way to determine at exactly what age the water is safe to drink. If your consumers have questions, encourage them to err on the side of caution.

**Corrective Action**

In your notice, describe corrective actions you are taking. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with chlorine dioxide violations. Depending of the corrective action you are taking, you can use one or more of the following statements, if appropriate, or develop your own text:

* We are resetting the chlorine dioxide generator to generate the correct amount of chlorine dioxide.
* We are repairing the chlorine dioxide generator.
* We have already fixed the problem but it will take additional time for the extra chlorine dioxide to be flushed from the distribution system (pipes).

**After Issuing the Notice**

Send a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notice requirements to your primacy agency within ten days after you issue the notice [40 CFR 141.31(d)].

It recommended that you notify health professionals in the area of the violation. People may call their doctors with questions about how the violation may affect their health, and the doctors should have the information they need to respond appropriately.

It is also a good idea to issue a “problem corrected” notice when the violation is resolved. See Template 1-6.

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DRINKING WATER WARNING

PREGNANT WOMEN AND YOUNG CHILDREN

SHOULD NOT DRINK THE WATER

On [give date], we received notice that the sample collected on [give date] showed chlorine dioxide levels of [level and units]. This is above the standard, or maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) of 0.8 milligrams per liter. Chlorine dioxide is used for disinfection, but too much of it over a short period of time may harm the development of children, infants, and fetuses.

Chlorine dioxide is used in small amounts every day to kill bacteria and other organisms that may be in your drinking water. A problem occurred with our chlorine dioxide generator, and too much chlorine dioxide was released.

**What should I do? What does this mean?**

* **DO NOT USE THIS WATER IF YOU ARE PREGNANT OR GIVE IT TO YOUNG CHILDREN.** Bottled water should be used until further notice. \*Some infants and young children who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the MRDL could experience nervous system effects. Similar effects may occur in fetuses of pregnant mothers who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the MRDL. Some people may experience anemia.

*The chlorine dioxide violations reported today include exceedances of the EPA standard within the distribution system which delivers water to consumers. Violations of the chlorine dioxide standard within the distribution system may harm human health based on short-term exposures. Certain groups, including fetuses, infants, and young children, may be especially susceptible to nervous system effects from excessive chlorine dioxide exposure.\** There are no obvious symptoms, but chlorine dioxide can affect development of the nervous system.

* Water, juice, and formula for young children and for pregnant women should not be prepared with tap water.
* Adults who are not pregnant and older children can drink the tap water because their nervous systems are already developed. However, if you have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

**What is being done?**

 [Describe corrective action and when you expect to return to compliance.]

For more information, please contact [name of contact] at [phone number] or [mailing address].

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**

This notice is being sent to you by [system]. State Water System ID#: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Date distributed: \_\_\_\_\_\_.