



Katie Hobbs
Governor

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



Karen Peters
Cabinet Executive Officer
Executive Deputy Director

January 2, 2025

Compliance Advisory: Treatment Technique Deficiency – Failure to correct significant deficiencies

During the period from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2024 the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) **failed to issue violations to public water systems that had not corrected significant deficiencies** identified during on-site inspections or during operator self-assessments within the required time period. In addition, such violations would have required a public notice at the time the violations were issued, but the affected public water systems were not notified of this requirement.

The Safe Drinking Water Act and corresponding Arizona law requires that significant deficiencies identified with any public water system must be corrected with specified timeframes. Significant deficiencies are any defect in design or operation that is likely to introduce contamination into the water. Water systems that take longer than the specified timeframes should receive a treatment technique violation (as per 40 CFR 141.404(a) and 40 CFR 141.860(b)), which then requires a public notice to inform customers about the failure to correct the issue in a timely manner.

Although ADEQ did identify and formally took enforcement actions against all public water systems that failed to correct significant deficiencies as required, these efforts were tracked separately from the Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS) where these actions are recorded and reported to EPA. Until October 2024, there was no process in SDWIS to issue violations for these issues. Our team has worked diligently to rectify this issue, and has retroactively added these violations for the public water systems identified on the following page.

It is essential to note that these violations are related to past incidents, and corrective actions have likely already been taken by your public water system to address the issues. ADEQ believes that there is no additional public health risk to the public due to this action, as it is administrative in nature. There are no actions the customers of affected public water systems need to take. ADEQ has and will continue to enforce compliance with the timeline requirements.

We understand the importance of transparent communication and are committed to keeping you informed throughout this process. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work to ensure the continued safety and reliability of our drinking water supply.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly.

Should you have any comments or questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact ADEQ at 602-771-2300 or by visiting our website at azdeq.gov/safe-drinking-water.

Sincerely,

Laura Carusona

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