

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS BRANCH

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California
Department of
Health Services

DIANA M. BONTÁ, R.N., Dr. P.H., Director

July 18, 2002

System No. 4900630

Linda Petrulias
Austin Creek Mutual (Springhill)
P.O. Box 86
Cazadero, CA., 95421

DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT FOR AUSTIN CREEK MUTUAL (SPRINGHILL) WATER SYSTEM

This Department has completed a Drinking Water Source Assessment for the water supply source for your water system. This assessment was done in accordance with the Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Program (DWSAP) requirements as mandated by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. A summary of this assessment, the Vulnerability Summary Sheet, is enclosed.

The California DWSAP program was prepared in response to the 1996 reauthorization of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (Act). The Act included an amendment requiring states to develop a program to assess sources of drinking water as to their vulnerability to possible contaminating activities. The California DWSAP encourages voluntary drinking water source protection.

The assessment includes a delineation of the area around a drinking water source through which contaminants might move and reach that drinking water supply. In addition, it includes an inventory of activities that might lead to the release of microbiological or chemical contaminants within the delineated area, a determination of the possible contaminating activities, and a summary of the vulnerability of the source to contamination. For your reference, a handout is enclosed entitled "Questions and Answers About Source Water Assessments".

To ensure that your customers are aware of the assessment and have access to it, you must include the language in the enclosed Vulnerability Summary sheet in your next and future Consumer Confidence Reports. If you would like a copy of the complete assessment, please contact this office at (707) 576-2145.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Brownwood, P.E.
Sonoma District Engineer
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch

cc: Sonoma County Environmental Health Department

Enclosures: Vulnerability Summary
Handout: Questions and Answers About Source Water Assessments

System No. 4900630/SWAP file
7/18/2002/EJV



Do your part to help California save energy. To learn more about saving energy, visit the following web site:
www.consumerenergycenter.org/flex/index.html

Assessment Summary

District Name DHS Sonoma District District No. 18 County Sonoma
 System Name Austin Creek Mutual (Springhill) System No. 4900630
 Source Name WELL 01 Source No. 001 PS Code 07N/11W-03A01 M
 Completed by Michael Burgess Date September, 2001

Description of System and Source

The Company serves approximately 100 year round residents through 61 connections, all single-family homes, in a wooded rural residential area east of Austin Creek Road 1.5 miles north of Highway 116 West. Approximately 50 of the 61 residences are occupied year round. The remaining 11 connections are vacation homes, occupied mainly during the summer months. The population served by the Company during peak usage periods is approximately 150. Currently, there are 11 inactive connections in the distribution system.

The Company utilizes one active well, Well 01, to meet all water system demands.

Assessment Procedures

The assessment of the source WELL 01 was conducted by DHS District office. The following sources of information were used in the assessment: DHS files, county files, water system files, and a site inspection.

Procedures used to conduct the assessment include: GPS survey, site inspection, DHS system file review, Mapping Tool Report.

Contents of this Assessment

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|---|
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Assessment Summary |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Vulnerability Summary |
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Source Location Form |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Delineation of Ground Water Protection Zones |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Physical Barrier Effectiveness Checklist |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Well Data Sheet |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Inventory of Possible Contaminating Activities |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Vulnerability Ranking |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Assessment Map |

Vulnerability Summary

District Name DHS Sonoma District District No. 18 County Sonoma
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Completed by Michael Burgess Date September, 2001

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE SYSTEM CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

A source water assessment was conducted for the WELL 01
of the Austin Creek Mutual (Springhill) water system in September, 2001

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

Septic systems - low density

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at:

Drinking Water Field Operations Branch
50 D Street, Suite 200
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting:

Office Representative
(707) 576-2145
(707) 576-2722 (fax)

Questions and Answers about Source Water Assessments

Question What is a source water assessment?

Answer: An assessment is an evaluation of a drinking water source to determine the "possible contaminating activities" (PCAs) to which the source is most vulnerable.

Question What are "possible contaminating activities"?

Answer: PCAs are current or historic human activities that are actual or potential origins of contamination for a drinking water source. PCAs include activities that use, store, produce or dispose of chemicals that have the potential to contaminate drinking water supplies.

Question: What does a source water assessment include?

Answer: There are several elements to an assessment, but the primary ones are:

- A delineation of protection areas or zones around the source
- An inventory of the types of Possible Contaminating Activities (PCAs) within the source protection zones.
- An analysis to determine the PCAs to which the source is most vulnerable.

The information is compiled into a report that includes a map, calculations, checklists, and a summary of the findings.

Question How were the PCAs to which my source is most vulnerable determined?

Answer: The vulnerability analysis considers several factors:

- The presence of a PCA
- The proximity of the PCA to the source
- The risk associated with the PCA (based on the chemicals involved and the likelihood of a release)
- The construction and setting of the source

These factors are combined to develop a priority ranking of PCAs, and the source is considered most vulnerable to the PCAs at the top of the ranking.

Question: Why is the assessment being done at this time?

Answer: Because it is required by federal and state regulations. Assessments are being done by the state, counties, water systems and other organizations.

Question: What information was used for the assessments?

Answer: Due to limited resources, these first assessments are relatively brief reports without much detail. The information came primarily from the regulatory agency files, field reviews, and sometimes from water systems.

Question: What should I do if I have questions about or corrections to the assessment?

Answer: Contact the agency or individual that prepared the assessment. Obvious errors can be addressed easily. Minor changes that do not affect the vulnerability summary can be addressed in a future update of the assessment. Changes requiring more detailed investigation may be done by the water system.

Question: What should I do with this information?

Answer: The water system is required to provide the vulnerability summary information to consumers. The required language can be found in the Vulnerability Summary. For all Community and Nontransient-Noncommunity water systems, the required language must be included in the system's next Consumer Confidence Report, and must be repeated in the report each year.

In addition, the water system or consumers may wish to find out more information or to proceed with a program to protect their drinking water sources. Water systems interested in source water protection may contact their regulating agency (state or county). The California Rural Water Association (CRWA) can also help with protection efforts. You can reach CRWA at 916-553-4900.