



July 11, 2008

## **Notification Procedure for ACW Precautionary Boil Water Notices**

A Precautionary Boil Water Notice issued by the operating authority is not to be confused with an MOH issued Boil Water Advisory.

In certain circumstances Veolia Water Canada, as the operating authority, issues Precautionary Boil Water Notices to the users of Ashfield Colborne Wawanosh municipal water systems. These are issued as due diligence measures when the water system's integrity has been breached. They are not an indication that the water is contaminated. Precautionary boil water notices are normally issued on the advice of the Huron County Health Unit staff.

The Health Unit staff maintains control of these notices and issues the authorization for their release. This is typically done on notification of suitable corrective actions and the receipt of 2 consecutive microbiology results demonstrating the water is safe.

A Boil Water Advisory is issued by the MOH (Medical Officer of Health) and is based on a positive indication that the water quality has been compromised.

The MOH maintains full control of corrective actions and user notification during an advisory. The operating authority and owner are obligated to take all corrective actions and notification efforts deemed appropriate by the MOH.

### **Precautionary Boil Water Notification Procedure**

In the event that an operator feels the water system has been left vulnerable to bacterial contamination the following is to be done.

1. Establish the boundaries of the vulnerable area.
2. Notify the Huron County Health Unit.
3. Notify the MOE if the notice is the result of an adverse water quality indication.
4. Notify the owner (Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh Township)
5. Prepare notices identifying the event and the addresses possibly affected.

Distribute the notices to each affected address attempting to make personal contact with the residents. If the event leaving the water system vulnerable is planned, the precautionary notices must be distributed 24 hours prior to the event. If the event is an emergency the notices must be distributed as quickly as practical

6. Post copies of the notice at the entrance(s) to the subdivision or hamlet and on the exterior of the pump house as well as posting copies at public areas within the subdivision or hamlet such as the mail box.
7. For the duration of the precautionary notice the operator is to ensure legible copies of the notice are present at the locations listed in 6.
8. Should the period covered by the precautionary notice extend beyond 10 days an update notice must be generated and posted at the public areas listed in 6 and redistributed.
9. Notification of the release of the precautionary notice will be distributed in the same manner as the initial notice.

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