



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Agriculture

635 Capitol St NE

Salem, OR 97301-2532

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DWP-DMCE



May 31, 2016

Kim Baglien  
Stahlbush Island Farms  
PWS ID #4105819  
3122 Stahlbush Island Rd  
Corvallis, Oregon 97333

Dear Ms. Baglien,

I received your letter dated May 13, 2016 and discussed your request for an exemption or variance request based on the unique characteristics of your system with the Oregon Health Authority- Drinking Water Services (OHA-DWS) staff. Unfortunately, there is not an exemption or variance that can be granted in place of permanent treatment for MCL violations.

Concerning the use of bottled water as an acceptable long-term compliance plan, this is not permitted because OAR 333-061-0045(10) states; "Public water systems shall not use bottled water to achieve compliance with an MCL."

In paragraph six of your letter you mentioned that the high nitrate levels are seasonal and that a permanent treatment system is unwarranted. Even though past nitrate tests show that the MCL is exceeded only during the Spring, there needs to be a permanent treatment system in place to ensure that water provided to the employees is safe to drink and not over the MCL for nitrate.

Options to comply include installing treatment to reduce the nitrate concentration, or obtaining another water source that meets water quality standards. Any treatment plans or new source must first go through the Department's plan review process, see enclosure.

For nitrate treatment you can use point of entry treatment (i.e. the building) but not point of use treatment (i.e. only at a single tap). If you can split the flow of water used for manufacture before the building that employees are using for drinking water you don't have to treat the manufacturing water. Reverse osmosis, ion exchange and electrodialysis are considered best available technology for removing nitrate.



Nitrate samples need to be taken quarterly. Your public notice needs to be posted until a treatment system is installed and approved.

Enclosed you will find the plan review requirement document for new disinfectant systems (can be used for nitrate treatment as well as disinfection) along with a fee schedule of \$248. If you are wanting to use an alternate source the basic plan review requirement document is attached with a fee schedule of \$825.

Please submit plans for either nitrate treatment or use of an alternate source of water within 30 days of this letter, no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

If you have any questions or need this information in an alternate format please call me at 503-508-6028.

Sincerely,



Sarah Schwab  
Operations & Automation Specialist

- c. Stahlbush Island Farms (PWS #4105819) Master File, OHA-DWS, Portland  
Russ Kazmierczak, OHA-DWS, Springfield

enclosure- Plan Review Information/Fee Schedule