



QUONOCHONTAUG CENTRAL BEACH FIRE DISTRICT

January 21, 2020

Dear QCBFD,

We will be on Well #2 today and for several days so your water may be discolored!

Well #1 continues to sample total Coliform+/E Coli -, TC+/EC-. Well #2 and our distribution was TC-/EC- meaning that there is no coliform detected in the distribution water. Nonetheless the Boil Water Advisory (BWA) remains in place.

RIDOH has recommended we re-chlorinate Well #1. This will be done today and we will be running solely off Well #2. Expect discolored water due to its elevated iron levels.

Given the persistent TC+/EC- sampling of well #1, our main water source, it is unlikely that RIDOH will allow the BWA to be lifted in the near future. A very real possibility exists that RIDOH will mandate 4-log disinfection and in that case a BWA will remain in effect until the 4-Log system is installed and operational.

We have recently begun the regrade and filling of lowspots at the well field; it took us some time to find "clean" fill free of iron and manganese. We have also started to look at 4-log chemical disinfection systems (the only systems approved by RIDOH) for our water system and there are engineering and design issues which need to be explored; the most difficult to assess at this point is the potential for chlorine byproducts, such as trihalomethanes (THM), to collect within our distribution system especially during off season low flow episodes. This means that

proper design and installation of a 4-Log system may take some time.

In the interim, we have adjusted our present UV lamp, designed to disinfect circulating water in the tank, to run 24/7. This seems to have prevented the TC+ in well #1 from entering our distribution system.

At this point I feel the community should be put on notice that a BWA will most likely remain in effect for QCBFD certainly through this summer season and beyond if we voluntarily or otherwise proceed with installation of a RIDOH compliant 4-Log chemical disinfection system. Our best case scenario would be that well #1 sterilizes soon and our second GUDI testing, scheduled for March 2020, returns negative.

Will continue to keep you updated and I appreciate your understanding.

**Vincent Reppucci
QCBFD PW Committee Chairperson**

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