DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT and NATURAL RESOURCES
PMB 2020
JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182
denr.sd.gov

February 22, 2013

Ms. Laurie Woodward
City of Custer
622 Crook Street
Custer, SD 57730
SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY TO ctylauri@gwtc.net AND ctybob@gwtc.net

RE: Annual Drinking Water Report for City of Custer (EPA ID 0101)

Dear Ms. Woodward:

It is time again for all community public water systems to issue the annual *Drinking Water Report* to their customers. The intent of this requirement is to ensure that consumers using your system know about the quality of their drinking water. Each community public water system must make the drinking water report available to its individual customers by **July 1, 2013** for water quality data collected during or prior to calendar year 2012.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is supplying all community water systems in South Dakota an example drinking water report tailored to each system. **Check the information in the attached report for accuracy and make changes as required. Distribute the report to your customers, and send a copy to DENR with the certification form as soon as possible but no later than July 1, 2013.** If you determine the attached report is correct and all required information is included you can use DENR's report to distribute to your customers. Be sure to indicate that you are using DENR's report by marking the check box on the certification form. ***By marking the check box, your system will not be required to submit a copy of the report to DENR.***

Electronic versions of your 2012 Drinking Water Report has been sent to the finance officer and the utility manager. An Adobe PDF copy of the report can also be found online at http://denr.sd.gov/des/dw/sysinfo.aspx . If you have questions concerning the content or distribution of the drinking water report, please contact me at (605)773-6576.

Sincerely,

Mitchel Williams

Mitchel Williams
Drinking Water Program

cy: Bob Morrison, Utility Manager

Instructions for Report Delivery and Recordkeeping

The City of Custer public water system must distribute the report and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources must receive a copy of your report no later than July 1, 2013.

Your community water system qualifies for a waiver. Rather than distribute a copy of the report to each of your customers, you should do the following:

1. Publish the Drinking Water Report annually in one or more local newspapers serving the areas in which the your customers are located.

2. Inform your customers that the report will not be mailed either in the newspapers in which the reports are published or by other means approved by DENR.

3. Make copies of the Drinking Water Report available upon request.

A good faith effort must be made to reach all of your consumers. Your water system must make the report available upon request and keep it on file for three years. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources must receive a copy of your report no later than July 1, 2013. **Complete the following form and return it to us after you distribute the drinking water report to your customers.**

2012
Annual Drinking Water Report
Certification of Distribution
City of Custer

I certify that the information contained in the drinking water report for the City of Custer is true and correct based upon my best information, knowledge, or belief and that the report has been distributed as required and a good faith effort has been made to reach all consumers. The City of Custer public water system has returned a copy of the drinking water report to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and will make the report available upon request for three years.

_____

Signature of Authorized Representative Date

☐ **I have checked the accuracy of the Drinking Water Report sent by DENR and have determined that it is complete and accurate. I am using DENR's report to distribute to my customers, therefore I am not required to return a copy to DENR.**

EPA ID No: 0101

You can contact us by calling
(605)673-4824 or write us at
622 Crook Street
Custer SD 57730

City of Custer

2012 Drinking Water Report

It's your tap water!

EPA ID: 0101

Water Quality

Last year, the City of Custer monitored your drinking water for possible contaminants. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Water Source

We serve more than 2,067 customers an average of 238,000 gallons of water per day. Our water is groundwater that we produce from local wells. The state has performed an assessment of our source water and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the Custer public water supply system is medium.

For more information about your water and information on opportunities to participate in public meetings, call (605)673-4824 and ask for Laurie Woodward.

Additional Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the Environment Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Custer public water supply system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

Detected Contaminants

The attached table lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2012 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2012. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

2012 Table of Detected Contaminants For Custer (EPA ID 0101)

Terms and abbreviations used in this table:

** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal(MCLG): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.*

** Maximum Contaminant Level(MCL): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.*

** Action Level(AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. For Lead and Copper, 90% of the samples must be below the AL.*

** Treatment Technique(TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. For turbidity, 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU*

Units:

**MFL: million fibers per liter*

**mrem/year: millirems per year(a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)*

**NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units*

**pCi/l: picocuries per liter(a measure of radioactivity)*

**ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter(mg/l)*

**ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter(ug/l)*

**ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter*

**ppq: parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter*

**pspm: positive samples per month*

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	1.3	2	05/18/11	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	1	0	08/23/12	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters	5.4		08/30/11	15	0	pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	0.080	0.110 - 0.080	08/30/11	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium	0.20		08/30/11	5	0	pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	1.8	1.0 - 1.8	12/19/12	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	1.6		12/19/12	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Bob Morrison with the Custer public water system at (605)673-4824.