

new

Direct Potable Water Reuse Standard Operating Procedure

Wichita Falls, Texas

Waterborne Disease Outbreak Procedures

This SOP supersedes any previous SOP on this topic.

INTRODUCTION

Potential waterborne disease outbreaks will require investigation and communication between several groups, primarily the Health Department and Public Works, who will determine what type of outbreak may be occurring and identify the appropriate responses.

OBJECTIVE

To ensure that the public health is protected during a water borne disease outbreak.

PROCEDURE

Health Department Procedure

Monitoring/Investigation

The Wichita County Health Department, (940) 761-7800, is responsible for monitoring the prevalence of disease that is endemic within the Wichita Falls system. They will develop a baseline of what is considered normal, for the year and seasonally.

If a disease is reported to the Wichita County Health Department that could be potentially transmitted via the waterborne route, they are responsible for the epidemiology/investigation of that disease and the determination of whether or not it was transmitted via the waterborne route or by other means.

Confirmation/Notification Procedure

The Wichita County Health Department is responsible for declaring a confirmed waterborne disease outbreak. The Wichita County Health Department is also responsible for notifying the Texas Department of Health and Human Services in the event of any confirmed waterborne disease outbreak (see Chain of Custody SOP).

If a waterborne disease outbreak is confirmed, the Wichita County Health Department will immediately notify the DPR Operations Supervisor via phone, text and e-mail of the confirmation.

Public Works Procedure

Sampling

During the Full Scale Operation of the Direct Potable Reuse Plant, the Water Purification Laboratory, (940) 691-1153, will collect daily, 10 Liters of water being discharged to the Distribution System.

This water will be labeled with the date the sample was collected and then stored in the Water Purification Laboratory refrigerator for 30 days. This water is to be utilized as a historical sample that can be analyzed in the event a Waterborne Disease Outbreak is declared.

The Wastewater Operations will collect daily 4 Liters of water that is being discharged from the wastewater plant to the DPR pipeline.

This water will be labeled with the date the sample was collected and then stored in the Wastewater Operations Sample refrigerator for 30 days. This water is to be utilized as a historical sample that can be analyzed in the event a Waterborne Disease Outbreak is declared.

The Water Purification Laboratory Staff will cooperate with the Wichita County Health Department during any investigation of a suspected or confirmed waterborne disease outbreak.

The Water Purification Laboratory will collect samples from the DPR Point of Entry and have the water analyzed for any pathogen that the Health Department is investigating.

The Water Purification Laboratory will collect samples at the effluent of all applicable DPR Plant processes that would be directly related to the removal and/or inactivation of the suspected pathogen, i.e. Filtration data for Protozoans, and Disinfection data for Bacteria, etc.

Confirmation/Notification Procedure

Once the Wichita County Health Department confirms that a waterborne disease outbreak is occurring, they will notify the DPR Operations Supervisor by phone, e-mail and text of the confirmation.

Upon notification the DPR Operations Supervisor will notify both DPR Plant Supervisors to shut down the Direct Potable Reuse Plant (See Emergency Shutdown SOP and Chain of Command SOP).

The DPR Operations Supervisor is responsible for notifying the Abilene Regional Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Office, by phone, and the City's Wholesale Customers by letter, within 24 hours of being notified by the Wichita County Health Department, if any waterborne disease outbreak has been confirmed.

Abilene Region Daytime Main Number: 325-698-9674 (Contact: Cliff Moore)

Primary 24-Hour Emergency Response Phone: 325-232-3213

Secondary 24-Hour Emergency Response Phone: 325-280-0934

Water Quality Task Force Procedure

The Water Quality Task Force will convene every month, on the last Friday of the month, to discuss health of the citizens and the operation of the Direct Potable Reuse Plant. Meeting updates will be provided to the TCEQ Central Office of any potential disease outbreaks discussed.

If the Wichita County Health Department determines that the level of incidence is increasing for any disease that could be transmitted via the waterborne route or validates that a disease was transmitted via the waterborne route, then they will immediately call an Emergency Meeting of the Water Quality Task Force.

The Water Quality Task Force is responsible for reviewing all epidemiology information and the DPR Plant operating data to determine the best course of action for the DPR Plant.

The Water Quality Task Force will determine if the Water Purification Laboratory and/or the Wastewater Operations needs to send one or more of the historical samples to an outside

laboratory for analysis, based on the suspected time of infection determined by the Health Department.

Public Information Procedure

The City of Wichita Falls Public Information Office is responsible for the dissemination of information to the public. All media inquiries will go through the Public Information Office.

Restart Procedure

Following a DPR shutdown based on a confirmed waterborne disease outbreak, a restart of the DPR will be a collaborative effort between the Wichita County Health Department, Water Quality Task Force, City of Wichita Falls Water and Wastewater Divisions and the TCEQ Central Office to determine that Public Health is no longer at risk.

Prepared by:_____ Date:_____

Approved by:_____ Date:_____

*This SOP is considered effective on the date it is approved. SOP's are to be reviewed and/or updated annually or any time this process has changed.

Reviewed by:_____ Date:_____

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Reviewed by:_____ Date:_____

Sign below and date that you have read this SOP. By signing you are stating that you understand and will defer to this SOP when applicable.

Printed Name	Signature	Date	Printed Name	Signature	Date