



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

WILLIAM F. WELD  
Governor

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI  
Lt. Governor

TRUDY COXE  
Secretary

DAVID B. STRUHS  
Commissioner

December 31, 1996

Orange Water Department  
16 West Myrtle Street  
Orange, MA 01364  
attn: Mr. Richard Kilhart

Re: Orange Water Dept.  
PWS ID # 1223000  
Commendation for Prompt Actions:  
November and December 1996

Dear Mr. Kilhart,

The Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Supply (DEP-DWS) takes this opportunity to acknowledge and commend you, your staff, and the Orange Water Commissioners prompt response to the detection of coliform bacteria in your water system in late November 1996.

When the Orange Water Dept learned on Friday Nov 29, 1996, that a routine bacteria sample detected the presence of Coliform bacteria, you were able to take and deliver additional bacteria samples that day to a laboratory in Lee, MA. When those samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria in the Orange's North Storage Tank, plans were initiated to use a commercial diving service to inspect and properly disinfect the North Storage Tank.

Water samples taken on November 30 and thereafter showed Zero coliform Bacteria, and by Dccember 3, 1996 the North Storage Tank was back in service. Water users and public were kept notified of the status of the water system throughout this time.

The Orange Water Department's prompt and professional response to this issue is an excellent example of a water systems' commitment to providing safe and fit water to its water users. Such commitment can often be taken for granted, but it is appropriate at times to acknowledge the type of effort the Orange Water Dept put forth during and after the Thanksgiving 1996 Holiday weekend.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kurt D. Boisjolie".

Kurt D. Boisjolie

Section Chief, Division of Water Supply

cc: Orange Board of Sclctmen  
Orange Water Commissioners  
DEP - DWS - Boston