



NOTICE TO SCOTIA WATER USERS

July 23, 2015

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

At the recommendation of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) staff, we will continually update you regarding our community water system. Because we have received additional inquiries, for clarity, we report on very recent events.

At approximately 5 am this Monday morning, July 20, there was another industrial fire suppression system water main break at the HRC sawmill. An unknown volume of water was again directed to the sawmill storm drain system and discharged onto the Eel River gravel bar, beneath which the Town of Scotia (TOS) collects its drinking water resources.

TOS operations staff immediately responded and turned off both the sawmill's broken fire main and the community's Eel River drinking water intake collector pumps to allow the latest discharge from the sawmill site to move through the infiltration gravels and bypass the drinking water intake system. This should help minimize the likelihood of collecting water directly impacted by the latest discharge. We were able to distribute to the community only filtered, treated water held in storage during this time.

On Tuesday, July 21, we hosted extensive document review and conducted onsite inspections of those areas and held subsequent discussions with a variety of regulatory agency staff (SWRCB —Division of Drinking Water, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the Humboldt County Department of Environmental Health). We anticipate an order or report regarding that agency review in the days to come.

At the direction of SWRCB staff, TOS promptly commissioned additional sampling and testing of water quality for a variety of constituents in several locations, above and beyond our routine drinking water monitoring and sampling. We expect that with accelerated testing and processing we requested, those results can be reported by early next week. We do not now have any reason to anticipate finding any particular health risk or basis for concern for the health or well being of our residents, families or businesses as a result of these tests. As a result of our continuing efforts to clean, flush, purge and replace system components, we have noticed a clearing trend and general improvement in finished drinking water quality over the last couple days.

Once again, if you find the taste or odor of the water unpalatable, you may wish to drink bottled water for the present. We promise you, we are working diligently with the regulatory agencies and parties involved to cease mill site discharge to the community's drinking water system source water, to protect and improve the water quality, and to permanently prevent a recurrence of this kind of disruption.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at the number below.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Stan Bacik".

Frank Bacik, President
Town of Scotia Company, LLC
707-764-4131