

567—40.5(455B) Public notice (PN).

40.5(1) Applicability. Each owner or operator of a public water supply system (PWS) must give notice for all violations of public drinking water rules and for other situations, as listed in this subrule. The term “violations” includes violations of, or failure to comply with, the maximum contaminant level (MCL), maximum residual disinfection level (MRDL), treatment technique (TT), monitoring requirements, and testing procedures in 567—Chapters 40, 41, and 43. The term “other situations” includes all situations determined by the department to require a PN, including the violations and situations listed in 40.5(2), 40.5(3), and 40.5(4), and any other situation where the department determines that PN is needed. PN is not required for ammonia monitoring conducted pursuant to 567—subrule 41.11(2).

a. PN tiers. PN requirements are divided into three tiers to account for the seriousness of a violation or situation and of any potential adverse health effects that may be involved. The PN requirements for each violation or situation are determined by the tier to which it is assigned.

(1) Tier 1 PN is required for all drinking water violations and situations with significant potential to have serious adverse effects on human health as a result of short-term exposure.

(2) Tier 2 PN is required for all other drinking water violations and situations with potential to have serious adverse effects on human health.

(3) Tier 3 PN is required for all other drinking water violations and situations not included in Tier 1 or Tier 2.

b. General PN requirements. Each PWS must provide PN to persons served by the system, in accordance with this rule. A copy of the notice must also be sent to the department, in accordance with 40.8(1)“c.”

(1) Consecutive systems. PWSs that sell or otherwise provide drinking water to other PWS (i.e., to consecutive systems) are required to provide PN to the owner or operator of the consecutive system. The consecutive system is responsible for providing PN to the persons it serves and must meet the appropriate tier requirements for the violation.

(2) Physically or hydraulically isolated distribution systems. If a PWS has a violation in a portion of the distribution system that is physically or hydraulically isolated from other parts of the distribution system, the department may allow the system to limit distribution of the PN only to persons served by that portion of the system that is out of compliance. Department permission to limit distribution of the notice must be granted in writing.

40.5(2) Tier 1 PN requirements.

a. Tier 1 PN—when required. The following violations or situations require Tier 1 PN:

(1) Violation of the *E. coli* MCL, as specified in 567—paragraph 41.2(1)“a.”

(2) Violation of either the nitrate or nitrite MCL, as defined in 567—subparagraph 41.3(1)“b”(1).

(3) Failure by the system to collect a confirmation sample within 24 hours of its receipt of the first sample result showing a nitrate or nitrite MCL exceedance, when directed by the department, as specified in 567—paragraph 41.3(1)“c”(7)“2.”

(4) Exceedance of the nitrate MCL by NCWSs, where permitted to exceed the MCL by the department under 567—paragraph 41.3(1)“a,” as required in 40.5(7)“c.”

(5) Violation of the chlorine dioxide MRDL when one or more samples, taken in the distribution system on the day following an MRDL exceedance in the sample collected at the entrance to the distribution system, exceeds the MRDL, as defined in 567—paragraph 43.6(1)“b.”

(6) Failure by the system to collect the required chlorine dioxide samples in the distribution system on the day following an MRDL exceedance in the sample collected at the entrance to the distribution system.

(7) Violation of the TT requirement by a surface water (SW) or influenced groundwater (IGW) PWS resulting from an exceedance of the maximum allowable turbidity limit, as specified in 567—Chapter 43, where the department determines, after consultation with the system, that a Tier 1 PN is required or where the department consultation does not take place within 24 hours after the system learns of the violation.

(8) Occurrence of a waterborne disease outbreak or other waterborne emergency, such as a failure or significant interruption in key water treatment processes, a natural disaster disrupting the water supply or distribution system, or a chemical spill or unexpected loading of possible pathogens into the source water that significantly increases the potential for drinking water contamination.

(9) Other violations or situations with significant potential to have serious adverse effects on human health as a result of short-term exposure, as determined by the department either in its rules or on a case-by-case basis.

(10) Detection of *E. coli*, enterococci, or coliphage in source water samples, as specified in 567—paragraphs 41.7(3) “a” and “b.”

b. Tier 1 PN—timing. PWSs must:

(1) Provide PN as soon as practical but no later than 24 hours after learning of the violation;

(2) Initiate consultation with the department as soon as practical, but no later than 24 hours after learning of the violation or situation, to determine additional PN requirements. For consultation after normal business hours, use the department’s Environmental Emergency Reporting Hotline, 515.725.8694; and

(3) Comply with any additional PN requirements established as a result of department consultation. Additional requirements may include the timing, form, manner, frequency, and content of repeat PNs (if any) and other actions designed to reach all persons served.

All NTNCs must notify the parent or legal guardian of each child under 18 years of age and any nursing home resident of the Tier 1 violation as soon as possible and within 72 hours, including the PN content in 40.5(5).

c. Tier 1 PN—form and manner. PWSs must provide PN within 24 hours in a form and manner reasonably calculated to reach all persons served. The form and manner used must fit the specific situation and must be designed to reach residential, transient, and nontransient users of the system. To reach all persons served, systems shall use one or more of the following forms of delivery. The department may require multiple forms of delivery in specific situations.

- (1) Appropriate broadcast media, such as radio or television;
- (2) Posting of the PN in conspicuous locations throughout the area served;
- (3) Hand delivery of the PN to persons served; or
- (4) Another delivery method approved in writing by the department.

40.5(3) *Tier 2 PN requirements.*

a. Tier 2 PN—when required. The following violations or situations require Tier 2 PN:

(1) All violations of the MCL, MRDL, and TT requirements, except where a Tier 1 PN is required under 40.5(2);

(2) Violations of the monitoring and testing procedure requirements, where the department determines that a Tier 2 rather than a Tier 3 PN is required, accounting for potential health impacts and persistence of the violation;

(3) Failure to comply with any compliance schedule in an operation permit, administrative order, or court order pursuant to 567—subrule 43.2(4);

(4) Failure to comply with an HA as determined by the department; and

(5) Failure to take corrective action or failure to maintain at least 4-log virus treatment (using inactivation, removal, or a department-approved combination of 4-log virus inactivation and removal) before or at the first customer under 567—paragraph 41.7(4) “a.”

b. Tier 2 PN—timing. PWSs must:

(1) Provide the initial PN as soon as practical but no later than 30 days after learning of a violation. If PN is posted, it must remain in place for as long as the violation or situation persists but in no case for less than seven days, even if the violation or situation is resolved. The department may allow additional time for the initial notice of up to three months from the date the system learns of the violation; however, such an extension must be made in writing on a case-by-case basis.

(2) Repeat the PN every three months as long as the violation or situation persists unless the department determines that circumstances warrant a different repeat frequency. A determination that a repeat PN frequency of longer than every three months is allowed must be made in writing on a case-by-case basis. The repeat PN frequency may not be less than once per year. Repeat PNs for an *E. coli* MCL violation, a TT violation under 567—paragraph 41.2(1) “a” or “i,” or a turbidity TT violation under 567—43.9(455B) or 567—43.10(455B) must be made every three months or more frequently.

(3) A PWS using SW or IGW with a TT violation resulting from a single exceedance of the maximum allowable turbidity limit, pursuant to 567—43.9(455B) or 567—43.10(455B), must consult with the department as soon as practical, but no later than 24 hours after learning of the violation, to determine whether a Tier 1 or Tier 2 PN is required to protect public health. For consultation after normal business hours, use the department's Environmental Emergency Reporting Hotline, 515.725.8694. If the consultation does not occur within the 24-hour period, the PWS must distribute a Tier 1 PN within the next 24 hours, or no later than 48 hours after learning of the violation, following the requirements of 40.5(2) "b" and "c."

c. Tier 2 PN—form and manner. PWSs must provide the initial PN and any repeat PN in a form and manner that is reasonably calculated to reach persons served in the required time period. The PN form and manner may vary based on the specific situation and type of PWS, but the PN must meet the requirements of this paragraph unless directed otherwise in writing by the department.

d. Tier 2 PN—CWS PN methods. CWSs must provide PN by the following methods:

(1) Mail or other direct delivery to each customer receiving a bill and to other service connections receiving water from the PWS; and

(2) Any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons regularly served by the system if they would not normally be reached by mail or direct delivery. Such persons may include those who do not pay water bills or do not have service connection addresses, such as renters, students, nursing home residents, or prison inmates. Other methods may include:

1. Publication in a local newspaper;
2. Delivery of multiple copies for distribution by customers that provide their drinking water to others, such as apartment building owners or large private employers;
3. Posting in public places served by the system or on the Internet; or
4. Delivery to community organizations.

e. Tier 2 PN—NCWS PN methods. NCWSs (TNCs or NTNCs) must provide PN by the following methods:

(1) Posting PN in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system frequented by persons served by the system or by mail or direct delivery to each customer and service connection (where known); and

(2) Any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons served who would not normally be reached by posting, mail, or direct delivery. Such persons may include those who may not see a posted PN because it is not in a location they routinely visit. Other methods may include:

1. Publication in a local newspaper or newsletter distribution to customers;
2. Use of email to notify employees or students; or
3. Delivery of multiple copies in central locations, such as community centers.

In addition to the previous requirements, NTNCs that serve children under 18 years of age (such as child care facilities, schools, and hospitals) or nursing home residents (including elder care facilities) must provide PN in writing to the parent or legal guardian of each person within the department-specified time period. The PN content must meet the requirements of 40.5(5).

40.5(4) Tier 3 PN requirements.

a. Tier 3 PN—when required. The following violations or situations require Tier 3 PN:

(1) Monitoring violations or a failure to comply with a department-required testing procedure, except where a Tier 1 PN is required under this rule or where the department determines that a Tier 2 PN is required;

(2) Availability of unregulated contaminant monitoring results, as required of certain PWSs by 40 CFR §141.40, in accordance with 40.5(7) "a";

(3) Exceedance of the fluoride level of 2.0 mg/L and not exceeding the MCL of 4.0 mg/L, in accordance with 40.5(7) "b";

(4) Failure to report required data or analytical results to the department;

(5) Failure to meet the requirements of this chapter for PN, PE, or the development and distribution of the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR);

(6) Failure to retain a certified operator in accordance with 567—subrule 43.1(5), where the department determines that PN is required;

(7) Failure to maintain department-required records; and

(8) Any other situation where the department determines PN is needed.

b. Tier 3 PN—timing.

(1) Initial PN.

1. For violations or situations listed in 40.5(4)“a”(1), “a”(4), or “a”(5), PWSs must provide the initial PN within 12 months after learning of the violation or situation. If the violation pertains to a contaminant that could have acute health effects as determined by the department, such as coliform bacteria, nitrate, nitrite, or turbidity, the initial notice must be provided within three months. If the PN is posted, it must remain in place for as long as the violation or other situation persists, but in no case less than seven days, even if the violation or situation is resolved.

2. For availability of unregulated contaminant monitoring results pursuant to 40.5(4)“a”(2), the system must provide the initial PN within 12 months of receiving the results.

3. For 40.5(4)“a”(3), “a”(6), or “a”(7), the initial PN timing is at the department’s discretion but the notice must be made within 12 months of the violation or situation.

(2) Repeat PN.

1. For violations or situations listed in 40.5(4)“a”(1), “a”(3), “a”(4), or “a”(5), PWSs must repeat the PN every 12 months in which the violation or situation persists. If the violation pertains to a contaminant that could have acute health effects, such as coliform bacteria, nitrate, nitrite, or turbidity, the system must repeat the PN every three months in which the violation or situation persists. If the PN is posted, it must remain in place for as long as the violation or other situation persists, but in no case less than seven days, even if the violation or situation is resolved.

2. For availability of unregulated contaminant monitoring results pursuant to 40.5(4)“a”(2), the system is not required to repeat the PN once the initial PN requirement has been met.

3. For 40.5(4)“a”(3), “a”(6), or “a”(7), the requirement for and timing of the repeat PN is at the department’s discretion. If required, the repeat PN must be made within 12 months of the initial PN.

c. Tier 3 PN—form and manner. PWSs must provide the initial PN and any repeat PN in a form and manner that is reasonably calculated to reach persons served in the required time period. The PN form and manner may vary based on the specific situation and type of system, but it must meet the requirements of this paragraph unless directed otherwise in writing by the department.

d. Tier 3 PN—CWS PN methods. CWSs must provide PN by:

(1) Mail or other direct delivery to each customer receiving a bill and to other service connections receiving water from the PWS; and

(2) Any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons regularly served by the system if they would not normally be reached by mail or direct delivery. Such persons may include those who do not pay water bills or do not have service connection addresses, such as renters, students, nursing home residents, or prison inmates. Other methods may include:

1. Publication in a local newspaper;

2. Delivery of multiple copies for distribution by customers that provide their drinking water to others, such as apartment building owners or large private employers;

3. Posting in public places or on the internet; or

4. Delivery to community organizations.

(3) Use of the CCR for initial and repeat PNs. For CWSs, the CCR required under 567—40.7(455B) may be used as a vehicle for initial and repeat Tier 3 PNs as long as:

1. The CCR is provided to persons served within the time frames under 40.5(4)“b”;

2. The Tier 3 PN in the CCR follows the content requirements under 40.5(5); and

3. The CCR is distributed following the delivery requirements under 40.5(4)“c”(1) and 40.5(4)“c”(2).

e. Tier 3 PN—NCWS PN methods. NCWSs (TNCs and NTNCs) must provide PN by:

(1) Posting PN in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system frequented by persons served by the system or by mail or direct delivery to each customer and service connection (where known); and

(2) Any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons served if they would not normally be reached by the posted, mailed, or delivered notice. Such persons may include those who may not see a posted PN because it is not in a location they routinely visit. Other methods may include:

1. Publication in a local newspaper or newsletter distributed to employees;
2. Use of email to notify employees or students; or
3. Delivery of multiple copies in central locations, such as community centers.

40.5(5) PN content.

a. Required elements. Each PN must contain the following:

(1) A description of the violation or situation, including the contaminant(s) of concern and, as applicable, the contaminant level(s);

(2) When the violation or situation occurred;

(3) Any potential adverse health effects from the violation or situation, including the standard language in 40.5(5)“c”(1) or “c”(2), where applicable;

(4) The population at risk, including subpopulations particularly vulnerable if exposed to the contaminant in their drinking water;

(5) Whether alternative water supplies or bottled water should be used or require a boil-water order;

(6) What actions consumers should take, including when they should seek medical help, if known;

(7) What the system is doing to correct the violation or situation;

(8) When the system expects to return to compliance or resolve the situation;

(9) The name, business address, and telephone number of the PWS owner, operator, or designee as a source of additional information concerning the PN; and

(10) A statement to encourage the PN recipient to distribute the notice to other persons served, using the standard language under 40.5(5)“c”(3), where applicable.

b. Appearance and presentation.

(1) Each PN must:

1. Be displayed in a conspicuous way when printed or posted;
2. Not contain overly technical language or very small print;
3. Not be formatted in a way that defeats the purpose of the notice; and
4. Not contain language that nullifies the purpose of the notice.

(2) Each PN must comply with multilingual requirements, as follows:

1. For PWSs serving a large proportion of non-English speaking consumers, as determined by the department, a PN must contain information about its importance in the appropriate language(s) or contain a telephone number or address where persons served may contact the system to obtain a translated copy of the notice or to request assistance in the appropriate language.

2. In cases where the department has not determined what constitutes a large proportion of non-English speaking consumers for a PWS, a PN must contain the same information as in 40.5(5)“b”(2)“1” above, where appropriate, to reach a large proportion of non-English speaking persons served by the system.

c. Standard language. PWSs must include the following statements in PNs:

(1) Health effects for MCL, MRDL, or TT violations. Each PN must include the health effects language in Appendix B to 40 CFR Part 141, Subpart Q, for the specific contaminant, disinfectant residual, or TT that incurred the violation.

(2) Monitoring and testing procedure violations. Each PN must include the following statement, including the bracketed language necessary to complete the notice, for all monitoring and testing procedure violations:

“We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During [compliance period], we [use either the phrase “did not monitor or test” or “did not complete all monitoring

or testing,” whichever is more applicable] for [contaminant(s)], and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.”

(3) Language to encourage PN distribution to all persons served. Each PN must include the following statement, where applicable:

“Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly, such as people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.”

40.5(6) *PN for new billing units or new customers.*

a. Community water systems (CWSs). CWSs must give a copy of the most recent PN for any continuing violation or other ongoing situations requiring PN to all new billing units or new customers prior to or at the time service begins.

b. Noncommunity water systems (NCWSs). NCWSs (TNCs and NTNCs) must continuously post the PN in conspicuous locations in order to inform new consumers of any continuing violation or other situation requiring PN for as long as the violation or other situation persists.

40.5(7) *Special PNs.*

a. Availability of unregulated contaminant monitoring results.

(1) *Applicability.* The owner or operator of a CWS or NTNC required to monitor under the federal unregulated contaminant monitoring rule must notify persons served by the system of the availability of such sample results no later than 12 months after the monitoring results are known.

(2) *Form and manner.* The special PN must follow the Tier 3 PN requirements in 40.5(4)“c” and must identify a person and provide the telephone number to contact for information on the monitoring results.

b. Fluoride level between 2.0 and 4.0 mg/L at CWSs or NTNCs.

(1) *Applicability.* CWSs and NTNCs that exceed the fluoride level of 2.0 mg/L as determined by the last single sample taken in accordance with 567—paragraph 41.3(1)“c” but do not exceed the MCL of 4.0 mg/L must provide the special PN in accordance with this paragraph to persons served. If the NTNC is a school or child care facility serving children under nine years of age, the system shall provide the PN in writing to the legal guardians of each child within the department-specified time period.

(2) *Initial PN.* A fluoride PN must be provided as soon as practical but no later than three months from the day the system learns of the exceedance. A copy of the notice must also be sent to all new billing units and new customers at the time service begins and to the Public Health Dental Director, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075.

(3) *Repeat PN.* The PWS must repeat the fluoride PN at least every three months for as long as the fluoride level exceeds 2.0 mg/L. If the PN is posted, it must remain in place for as long as the fluoride level exceeds 2.0 mg/L but in no case less than seven days (even if the exceedance is eliminated). The department may require the repeat PN to be conducted more frequently.

(4) *Form and manner.* The form and manner of the fluoride PN, including repeat PNs, must follow the Tier 3 PN requirements in 40.5(4)“c.”

(5) *Mandatory language.* A fluoride PN must contain the following language, including the bracketed language necessary to complete the notice:

“This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth, called dental fluorosis. The drinking water provided by your public water system [PWS name] has a fluoride concentration of [analytical result] mg/L.”

“Dental fluorosis, in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining and pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.”

“Drinking water containing more than 4.0 mg/L of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Your drinking water

does not contain more than 4.0 mg/L of fluoride, but we are required to notify you when we discover that the fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2.0 mg/L because of this cosmetic dental problem.”

“For more information, please call [PWS contact person] of [PWS name] at [telephone number]. Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. For more information, you may call the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International at 1-877-867-3435.”

c. Nitrate level between 10 and 20 mg/L for NCWSs, where allowed by the department. NCWSs granted permission by the department under 567—paragraph 41.3(1)“a” to exceed the nitrate MCL must:

(1) Provide PN to persons served according to the Tier 1 PN requirements under 40.5(2)“a” and “b.”

(2) Provide continuous posting of the fact that nitrate levels exceed 10 mg/L and the potential health effects of exposure, according to the Tier 1 PN delivery requirements under 40.5(2)“c” and the content requirements under 40.5(5).

d. Repeated failure to conduct source water monitoring for Cryptosporidium.

(1) Applicability. The owner or operator of any PWS that is required to monitor source water under 567—43.11(455B) must notify persons served by the system that required monitoring has not been completed no later than 30 days after the system has failed to collect samples in any three months of monitoring, as specified in 567—paragraph 43.11(3)“a.” This special PN must be repeated as specified in 40.5(3).

(2) Form and manner. This special PN must follow the Tier 2 PN requirements in 40.5(3) and be presented as required in 40.5(5)“b.”

(3) Mandatory language. This special PN must contain the following language, including the language necessary to fill in the brackets.

“We are required to monitor the source of your drinking water for *Cryptosporidium*. Results of the monitoring are to be used to determine whether water treatment at the [treatment plant name] is sufficient to adequately remove *Cryptosporidium* from your drinking water. We are required to complete this monitoring and make this determination by [required bin determination date]. We [“did not monitor or test” or “did not complete all monitoring or testing”] on schedule and, therefore, we may not be able to determine by the required date what treatment modifications, if any, must be made to ensure adequate *Cryptosporidium* removal. Missing this deadline may, in turn, jeopardize our ability to have the required treatment modifications, if any, completed by the required deadline of [date]. For more information, please call [PWS contact person] of [PWS name] at [telephone number].”

(4) Each special PN must include a description of what the system is doing to correct the violation and when the system expects to return to compliance or resolve the situation.

e. Failure to determine bin classification or mean Cryptosporidium level.

(1) Applicability. The owner or operator of a PWS that is required to determine a bin classification under 567—subrule 43.11(5) must notify persons served by the system that the required determination has not been made no later than 30 days after the system has failed to report the determination, as specified in 567—paragraph 43.11(5)“c.” This special PN must be repeated as specified in 40.5(3). This PN is not required if the system is in compliance with a department-approved schedule to address the violation.

(2) Form and manner. This special PN must follow the Tier 2 PN requirements in 40.5(3) and be presented as required in 40.5(5)“b.”

(3) Mandatory language. This special PN must contain the following language, including the language necessary to fill in the brackets.

“We are required to monitor the source of your drinking water for *Cryptosporidium* in order to determine by [date] whether water treatment at the [treatment plant name] is sufficient to adequately remove *Cryptosporidium* from your drinking water. We have not made this determination by the required date. Our failure to do this may jeopardize our ability to have the required treatment modifications, if any, completed by the required deadline of [date]. For more information, please call [PWS contact person] of [PWS name] at [telephone number].”

(4) Each special PN must include a description of what the system is doing to correct the violation and when the system expects to return to compliance or resolve the situation.

40.5(8) *PN by department on behalf of a PWS.* The department may provide PN on behalf of a PWS owner or operator in compliance with this rule. However, the PWS owner or operator remains responsible for ensuring the PN requirements of this rule are met.

40.5(9) *Small water system—operation permit PN requirements.* When the department determines that a small PWS cannot promptly comply with one or more MCLs pursuant to 567—Chapter 41 and that there is no immediate, unreasonable health risk to persons served by the system, an operation permit will be drafted with interim contaminant levels or a compliance schedule. The department may require the applicant to present the reasons the small water system cannot come into immediate compliance. Prior to issuance of a final permit with a compliance schedule, notice and opportunity for public participation must be given in accordance with this subrule. The PN shall be circulated in a manner designed to inform interested and potentially interested persons of any proposed interim contaminant level or compliance schedule.

a. Small water system—PN preparation. A PN shall be prepared by the department and circulated by the applicant within its geographical area through publication in a local newspaper with general circulation or through mail or direct delivery to the system’s customers. The PN shall be mailed by the department to any person upon request.

b. Small water system—public comment period. The department shall provide a period of at least 30 days following the PN date during which time interested persons may submit their written views on the tentative determinations with respect to the operation permit. All written comments submitted during the 30-day comment period shall be retained by the department and considered in the formulation of the department’s final determination with respect to the operation permit. The department may extend the comment period.

c. Small water system—PN content. A PN of a proposed operation permit shall contain at least the following:

- (1) The name, address, website, and telephone number of the department.
- (2) The name and address of the applicant.
- (3) A statement of the department’s tentative determination to issue the operation permit.
- (4) A brief description of each applicant’s operations that necessitate the proposed permit conditions.
- (5) A brief description of the procedures for the formulation of final determinations, including the 30-day comment period required by 40.5(9) “b.”
- (6) The right to request a public hearing pursuant to 40.5(9) “d” and any other means by which interested persons may influence or comment upon those determinations.
- (7) The website location where interested persons may obtain further information, request a copy of the proposed operation permit prepared pursuant to this subrule, and inspect and copy the application forms and related documents.

d. Small water system—public hearings. The applicant or any interested agency, person or group of persons may request or petition for a public hearing with respect to a proposed operation permit.

- (1) Any such request or petition shall:
 1. Clearly state the issues to be addressed at a hearing;
 2. Be filed with the department within the 30-day period prescribed in 40.5(9) “b”; and
 3. Indicate the interest of the party filing the petition or request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

(2) The department shall hold an informal and noncontested case hearing if there is a significant public interest in holding a hearing, including the filing of requests or petitions for a hearing. Frivolous or insubstantial hearing requests may be denied by the department. Instances of doubt should be resolved in favor of holding a hearing.

(3) Any hearing held pursuant to this subrule shall be held in the geographical area of the system, or other appropriate area, at the department’s discretion.

(4) The department may, as appropriate, consider related groups of permit applications at a hearing.

e. Small water system—PN for public hearings. PN of any hearing held pursuant to this subrule shall:

- (1) Be circulated at least as widely as the notice under 40.5(9) “a” at least 30 days in advance of the hearing.

- (2) Contain at least the following:
 1. The name, address, website, and telephone number of the department;
 2. The name and address of each applicant whose application will be considered at the hearing;
 3. A brief reference to the previously issued PN, including identification number and date of issuance;
 4. The time and location for the hearing;
 5. The purpose of the hearing;
 6. A concise statement of the issues raised by the person requesting the hearing;
 7. The website location where interested persons may obtain further information, request a copy of the draft operation permit or modification prepared pursuant to this subrule, and inspect and copy the application forms and related documents; and
 8. A brief description of the nature of the hearing, including the rules and procedures to be followed.
- f. Small water system—operation permit decision.* The department shall issue or deny an operation permit within 30 days after a public hearing held pursuant to this subrule, or, if no public hearing is held, within 30 days after the end of the period for requesting a hearing.

[ARC 9395C, IAB 7/9/25, effective 8/13/25]