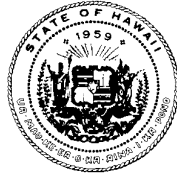


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NEWS RELEASE

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WAIAHOLE WATER SAFE TO DRINK, BOIL ORDER WITHDRAWN

Honolulu — The Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) received notice at 12:55p today from the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) Clean Water Branch that a second round of samples from the Waiahole Water System tested **NEGATIVE** for the presence of E. coli bacteria. Today's results come from samples collected on July 27.

As a result, HHFDC is lifting the boil water notice it issued to residents on July 26.

Residents of 140 Waiahole lots (50 agricultural and 90 residential) received notice of a positive contamination result on Thursday June 26 and were warned to boil any tap water used for drinking or cooking until further notice.

"We are pleased to be able to lift the Boil Water Notice at this time," said Acting Executive Director Janice Takahashi. "We want to thank the residents and Waiahole School for their understanding and cooperation while the Department of Health conducted the additional tests to ensure the water is safe. I'm proud of my staff, our partners at the Department of Health, and our contractors at Doonwood for working hard to get the word out to residents and identify and resolve any problems."

Doonwood Engineering operates the Waiahole Water System which is owned by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. The water system was constructed in 1989 and has wells capable of supplying 1.15 millions of gallons of water per day.

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RESPONSE TIMELINE

June 20

- Routine, monthly testing of the Waiahole Water System came back negative for the presence of any harmful bacteria.

July 25

- A chlorine pump serving one of two Waiahole Water System wells failed.
- Water samples were collected and sent to the Department of Health (DOH) labs, in compliance with monthly testing requirements and state regulations.

July 26

- Samples taken July 25 tested positive for E. coli bacteria.
- Doonwood Engineering and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation were notified by the DOH of the test results between 3 and 5 pm.

July 27

- In compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations, Doonwood Engineering and HHFDC staff went door to door in Waiahole Valley from 10a to 12p, delivering boil water notices.
- Samples were collected from throughout the water system to determine how and where the bacteria was entering the water supply. These samples were specific for E-coli.
- Consistent with state regulations and protocol, all water holding tanks were treated with chlorine and water pipes flushed to remove contaminated water.
- Additional chlorine pumps were ordered from the mainland and are scheduled to be installed

July 28

- HHFDC is notified that all samples collected on July 27 tested negative for the presence of fecal coliform or E.coli bacteria.
- All clear notices are issued to the residents of Waiahole.