Public Water System Assistance Program and Problem Water Systems: Pre-Violation Decision Making Process

FIGURE X - 1

Purveyor Requests Assistance From PCPW & U

PCPW & U provides assistance with: minor problem identification/solving, planning agency coordination, coordination with nearby purveyors.

QUESTION: Does PCPW & U determine that a violation appears imminent or are they informed by DOH that receivership action is being considered?

PCPW & W continues to offer basic level of assistance.

PCPW & U engages in receivership pre-planning including: ascertaining the willingness of nearby purveyors to assist, acquire, or act as receiver for problem system; develop contingency plan including preliminary work plan; and consult with other County departments.

PCPW & U contacts purveyor and offers expanded assistance.

Purveyor accepts?

YES

NO

Problem resolved or improved?

YES

NO

PCPW & U provides assistance including: problem evaluation, system capability assessment, cost estimates, rate studies, funding options, and recommendations for correction.

Problem resolved or improved?

YES

NO

DOH and/or TPCHD continue to monitor.

Problem resolved?

YES

NO

Violation Occurs.

See Post Violation Flow Chart
DOH notifies PCPW & U that violation has occurred and issues order or compliance schedule.

Emergency Action Necessary?

YES

Emergency contamination incident requiring EPA or Ecology assistance?

NO

Purveyor undertakes emergency action?

NO

PCPW & U concurs that emergency action is necessary?

NO

DOH continues with enforcement action.

YES

DOH proceeds with enforcement action.

Owner/Operator complies with order or schedule?

NO

DOH/TPCHD monitor.

YES

DOH/TPCHD monitor.

Problem resolved?

NO

Problem resolved?

NO

DOH/TPCHD monitor.

DOH/TPCHD monitor.

PCPW & U determines whether any alternatives to receivership are available which were not already exhausted in pre-violation assistance efforts, including water district formation.

DOH notifies PCPW & U that receivership action is probable or imminent.

PCPW & U re-initiates assistance efforts.

Problem resolved?

YES

DOH/TPCHD monitor.

NO

DOH proceeds with receivership action.

PCPW & U converts contingency plan to receivership plan and prepares final work plan in cooperation with Community and Economic Development, County Prosecuting Attorney, and if possible, a satellite system management agency or nearby purveyor willing to assume receivership responsibility.

 Receivership and final work plans are presented to court.

PCPW & U or satellite system assumes receivership responsibility in accordance with the court order.

PCPW & U and or the satellite system submit recommendations for disposition of the system in receivership.

Court determines final disposition.