



## Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Asa Hutchinson

Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

March 2, 2016

Mr. Joel Beauvais  
Deputy Assistant Administrator  
USEPA Headquarters  
William Jefferson Clinton Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mail Code: 4101M  
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Lead and Copper Rule Implementation  
Arkansas Department of Health

Dear Mr. Beauvais:

This letter is in response to your recent correspondence concerning the implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule in the state of Arkansas.

The Arkansas Department of Health has been the primacy agency in Arkansas for the federal Safe Drinking Water Act since approximately 1978. During the time since original primacy was granted, the Arkansas Department of Health has been and continues to be diligent in our role of ensuring safe drinking water is available to the citizens of our state. We share your expressed recognition of the critical importance of safe drinking water and to assure the public that we are doing everything we can to address any risks from drinking water and specifically from lead in drinking water.

Your correspondence requested that near term actions be taken with regard to five itemized areas. I will address them individually.

- 1) The Arkansas Department of Health strives to be consistent with the protocols and procedures detailed in the lead and copper rule as well as EPA guidance documents related to that rule. In addition, the recently issued EPA guidance concerning aerator screens, pre-stagnation flushing, and bottle configuration will be incorporated into our program.

Mr. Joel Beauvais

- 2) The Arkansas Department of Health follows EPA guidance concerning sampling protocols, and with regards to corrosion control we utilize the EPA guidance document titled "Revised Guidance Manual for Selecting Lead and Copper Control Strategies," USEPA, 2003.
- 3) The Arkansas Department of Health currently maintains a public internet website which provides the public with drinking water related information. We will work with our Information Technology staff to provide a place for Lead and Copper Rule protocol and guidance documents to be presented.
- 4) The Arkansas Department of Health will work with and encourage water systems in the state to provide documentation to the public concerning materials inventories and associated maps. The Arkansas Department of Health will be able to provide the results of compliance monitoring on the Arkansas Department of Health's web pages. We will work with our Information Technology staff to make this happen.
- 5) The Arkansas Department of Health currently enforces the public education requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule. We provide public education documents that assist in understanding the meaning of the results. Also, we work with home owners to retest their location if they desire and the site is above action levels. We are willing to explore possible ways to enhance this effort.

The Arkansas Department of Health has enjoyed a positive and constructive working relationship with our primary contact, EPA Region VI. This partnership has allowed us to ensure our citizens are consistently provided with safe drinking water. We look forward to working together to meet these important challenges and maintain the public trust.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Smith", with a horizontal line extending to the right and a small flourish at the end.

Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH  
Director and State Health Officer