



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

AUG 10 2005

OFFICE OF
ENFORCEMENT AND
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. George D. Bagley
Executive Vice President of Operations
Alaska Airlines, Inc.
19300 International Boulevard
Seattle, WA 98188

Dear Mr. Bagley:

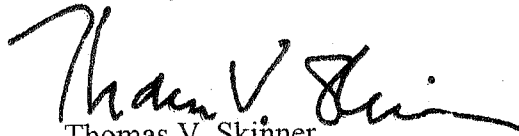
Please find enclosed the final and executed Administrative Order on Consent and Request For Information (Order) that resolves Alaska Airlines, Inc.'s non-compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (Act) and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. We appreciate the high level of cooperation demonstrated by your airline throughout the process of developing and finalizing the terms of the Order.

As you know, in previous correspondence and throughout the negotiation process, EPA assured the airlines that it would address instances of noncompliance with the Act through the negotiated Order. In consideration of your willingness to address your non-compliance issues, EPA, in its enforcement discretion, agrees not to pursue additional enforcement action against Alaska Airlines for past violations of the Act addressed by this Order or for penalties for such violations as long as Alaska Airlines is in compliance with all the terms of the Order. This exercise of EPA's enforcement discretion applies only to the period of time the Order is in effect.

Again, I want to commend you for your cooperation in this process and for recognition of the importance of protecting public health and meeting the requirements of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Please contact Laurie Dubriel at (202) 564-4031 or Lourdes Bufill at (202) 564-5128, both of my staff, if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas V. Skinner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Thomas V. Skinner
Acting Assistant Administrator

Enclosure

**UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

In the Matter of	§	Docket No. SDWA-10-2005-0188
	§	
ALASKA AIRLINES, INC.	§	Proceedings Under Section 1414(g) and
	§	1445(a) of
George D. Bagley	§	
Executive Vice President of Operations	§	
RESPONDENT	§	The Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC
	§	Section 300g-3(g) and 300j-4(a)
	§	
ALASKA AIRLINES, INC.	§	
KING COUNTY	§	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON
	§	CONSENT AND REQUEST FOR
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	§	INFORMATION

WHEREAS aircraft that qualify as public water systems are subject to the Safe Drinking Water Act and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations; and WHEREAS in 1979 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued Water Supply Guidance 17 which was replaced by Water Supply Guidance 29 in 1986, both of which allowed certain owners or operators of carriers that conveyed passengers in interstate commerce to implement operation and maintenance programs in lieu of the monitoring required under the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations of the Safe Drinking Water Act if the program was approved by EPA; and WHEREAS carriers that conveyed passengers in interstate commerce, including airlines, relied upon Water Supply Guidances 17 and 29 to comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations; and WHEREAS in September 2003 EPA suspended new approvals of operation and maintenance plans under Water Supply Guidance 29; and WHEREAS EPA is in the process of reviewing the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations to determine the extent to which any amendments are necessary to address the circumstances unique to aircraft drinking water systems; and WHEREAS Alaska Airlines, Inc. (Alaska) recognizes the

