



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

AUG 10 2005

OFFICE OF
ENFORCEMENT AND
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Kenneth J. Hylander
Vice President Safety and Engineering
c/o Timothy McGraw
Director of Corporate Environmental Programs
Northwest Airlines, Inc.
2700 Lone Oak Parkway
Eagan, MN 55121

Dear Mr. Hylander:

Please find enclosed the final and executed Administrative Order on Consent and Request For Information (Order) that resolves Northwest 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.

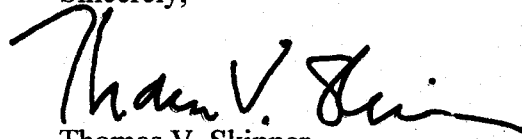
As you know, in previous correspondence and throughout the negotiation process, EPA assured the airlines that it would address instances of noncompliance with the Act through the negotiated Order. In consideration of your willingness to address your non-compliance issues, EPA, in its enforcement discretion,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

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Please contact Laurie Dubriel at (202) 564-4031 or Lourdes Bufill at (202) 564-5128 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 fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Thomas V. Skinner
Acting Assistant Administrator

Enclosure

**UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

In the Matter of	§	Docket No. SDWA-05-2005-4810
	§	
NORTHWEST AIRLINES, INC.	§	Proceedings Under Section 1414(g) and
	§	1445(a) of
Kenneth J. Hylander	§	
Vice President, Safety and Engineering,	§	
Chief Safety Officer	§	
RESPONDENT	§	The Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC
	§	Section 300g-3(g) and 300j-4(a)
	§	
NORTHWEST AIRLINES, INC.	§	
A DELAWARE CORPORATION	§	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON
	§	CONSENT AND REQUEST FOR
	§	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

