PHILIP D. MURPHY
GOVERNOR

TAHESHA L. WAY
LT. GOVERNOR

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Mail Code 401-04Q
Division of Water Supply & Geoscience
Water System Operations Element
Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
401 E. State Street - P.O. Box 420
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420
Tel #: (609) 292-5550 - Fax #: (609) 633-1495
https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/

SHAWN M. LATOURETTE
Commissioner

Sent via email: Hammondp@Norwescap.Org

March 14, 2025

Paula Hammond
Hopatcong Head Start
Norwescap Holding Co. Inc.
604 Roseberry St.
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Re: Hopatcong Head Start
PWSID #: NJ1912329
SRP PI #: 446823, Activity #: SDD250001
License #: 19HOP0001
Hopatcong Boro, Sussex County
Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality

Dear Paula Hammond:

The Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (Bureau) has completed its review of the analytical data available for Hopatcong Head Start. Review of the data was conducted based on the March 6, 2017, amendments to the "Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers" (N.J.A.C. 3A:52). Specifically, N.J.A.C. 3A:52-5.3(i)(5)(iii) requires a childcare center to provide potable water sampling results demonstrating compliance with maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for all contaminants required to be tested by a non-transient, noncommunity water system.

To demonstrate compliance, Hopatcong Head Start provided the analytical data for specific sampling events listed in the table below.

Contaminant (or contaminant group)	Sample collection date
Coliform	02/13/2025
Nitrate	02/13/2025
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)	02/13/2025
Inorganic Compounds (IOCs)	02/13/2025
Lead and Copper	11/07/2024
1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP)	02/13/2025
1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	02/13/2025
Ethylene dibromide (EDB)	02/13/2025
Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA)	10/17/2024
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	10/17/2024
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)	10/17/2024
Radiological Contaminants	10/11/2019 (note: based on these results, sampling for radiologicals is next due in 2028.)

The analytical data for Hopatcong Head Start demonstrates its water supply is currently in compliance with the MCLs referenced at N.J.A.C. 3A:52-5.3(i)(5)(iii); and therefore, meets the requirements for drinking water quality required for a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 30:B-5.5 and 40 CFR 141.85(d), you are required to post a Water Quality Report and Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results in a conspicuous location as soon as possible and then annually thereafter. To assist you with this requirement, the Bureau has enclosed a Water Quality Report and Lead Consumer Notice specific for your childcare. This document must be completed (enter childcare specific information as indicated on the blank lines) and posted upon receipt of this letter and has available upon request.

Be advised that submitting drinking water quality data is required upon each three-year license renewal or upon any relocation of the childcare facility. The sample results for the above contaminants (or contaminant groups) may be used one time only (i.e., one three-year license period) and the same data may not be used for future license renewals. The exception to this can be radiological results, for which the repeat sampling timeframe is based on the levels detected. Your next radiological requirement is noted in the table above.

A copy of this letter should be included with the renewal licensing application to the Department of Children and Families. Please keep a copy of this letter with your licensing records; it will be important for your next three-year license renewal process.

If you have questions, please contact Nicole Dickey of the Bureau via email at nicole.dickey@dep.nj.gov or by phone at (609) 292-5550. When contacting the Bureau reference PWSID # NJ1912329 and Activity # SDD250001.

Sincerely,

Jose Rosa
Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

cc: (via e-mail)
NJ DCF – Office of Licensing
Sussex County Health Department

Water Quality Report

for

Hopatcong Head Start

Norwescap Holding Co. Inc.
604 Roseberry St.
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

As a result of testing our drinking water, required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Children and Families (per N.J.A.C. 3A:52), the following chart provides sampling results for those contaminants detected in our drinking water.

Contaminant	MCL / AL / RUL*	Level Detected	Units	Exceeded (Yes or No)
Barium	2	0.0023	mg/L	No
Nitrate	10	1.4	mg/L	No
Copper[+]	1.3	0.278	mg/L	No
Nickel	N/A	0.000715	mg/L	N/A
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	0.014	0.00824	µg/L	No
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHXA)	N/A	0.00972	µg/L	N/A
Sodium	50	413	mg/L	Yes
Sulfate	250	28.5	mg/L	No

**MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level; AL = Action Level; RUL = Recommended Upper Limit*
[+]Reported as the 90th percentile used for compliance

For additional information on drinking water please refer to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Supply & Geoscience website at https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/ or the United States Environmental Protection Agency's website at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/.

Questions may be directed to Director/Owner: _____ at phone number/email: _____.

Note: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Additional Comments:

Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results

for

Hopatcong Head Start

We are responsible for ensuring the drinking water we provide meets state and federal standards per the March 6, 2017, amendments to the "Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers" (N.J.A.C. 3A:52). Specifically, N.J.A.C. 3A:52-5.3(i)(5)(iii) requires a childcare center to provide potable water sampling results demonstrating compliance with maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for all contaminants required to be tested by a non-transient, noncommunity water system. In addition, effective January 12, 2017, all licensed childcares in New Jersey are required to sample for lead regardless of their source of drinking water.

We collected drinking water samples for lead at this facility on 11/07/2024. Below please find a chart illustrating the sampling locations and their results.

Sample Location	Result in ppb
EMPLOYEE BR SINK	Non-Detect
CLASSROOM SINK L	3.09
CLASSROOM SINK R	Non-Detect
KITCHEN HAND SINK	Non-Detect
KITCHEN SINK	2.26

We are happy to report that the 90th percentile value for our facility is below the lead action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb). However, we are still required to provide the information below.

What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 ppb. This means we must ensure water from our taps used for human consumption does not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites sampled (90th percentile result). The action level is *the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.* If water from the tap does exceed this limit, then the utility must take certain steps to correct the problem. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA set a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) of zero for lead. The MCLG is *the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.*

Health effects of Lead

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

What Are the Sources of Lead?
Although most lead exposure occurs when people eat paint chips and/or inhale paint dust, or from contaminated soil, EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from lead in drinking water. Lead is rarely found in source water but enters tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free", may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 0.25 percent lead to be labeled as "lead free". However, prior to January 4, 2014, "lead free" allowed up to 8 percent lead content of the wetted surfaces of plumbing products including those labeled National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) certified. Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions.

When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

What Can I Do to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

Run your water to flush out lead.
If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes.

Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.

Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.

Call us at _____. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at **www.epa.gov/lead**, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, visit New Jersey Department of Health's factsheet at https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/dwf_lead_schools.pdf or contact your health care provider.

Date Issued: _____