

News release

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Public comment period for Bull Run variance reopens

New two-week public comment period runs through Feb. 8

The public comment period on the intent to grant a variance to the City of Portland's Bull Run water reopened today and will run through Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 5 p.m.

Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division officials decided to reopen the comment period because recent testing of Bull Run water in late December showed evidence of *Cryptosporidium*, which is a microscopic parasite that can infect humans and animals.

"The detections are a change from the information upon which our draft order was based, and are relevant to the monitoring requirements we have laid out in the proposed order. It seems fair that we allow people time to comment in light of the new information," said Gail Shibley, administrator for OHA's Office of Environmental Public Health.

Current comments should be limited to the newest information about *Cryptosporidium* testing results.

In December, OHA's Public Health Division announced its intent to grant a variance for *Cryptosporidium* to the City of Portland Bull Run Reservoir after a 36-day public comment period. The final order is expected in March.

Comments on the variance decision in regard to the Crypto detections are due by Wednesday, Feb. 8, 5 p.m. Please send comments to:
pwb.treatment-variance@state.or.us; or mail to:

(more)

Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division, Office of Environmental Public Health, Drinking Water Program, 800 NE Oregon St., Ste 640 Portland OR 97232.

The City of Portland's report on the recent Cryptosporidium detections in Bull Run are outlined here:

www.portlandonline.com/water/index.cfm?c=53849&a=382721

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