



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**  
**DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**  
Columbia Environmental Field Office  
1421 Hampshire Pike  
Columbia, TN 38401  
1-888-891-8332

February 5, 2024

Mr. Tom Lunn, Superintendent  
Columbia Water Plant  
P.O. Box 379  
Columbia, TN 38402-0379

Re: Audit Report  
Lab # 03009

Dear Mr. Lunn:

Division of Water Resources personnel visited the Columbia Water Plant Laboratory and performed a microbiology audit on January 12, 2024. We would like to thank you and your staff for your courtesy during the audit.

### **I. Certification Status**

Columbia Water Plant Laboratory microbiology certification for Colilert® is valid through January 12, 2027; subject to the satisfactory correction of deviations and continued compliance with the State of Tennessee certification criteria and the USEPA laboratory certification criteria and procedures for quality assurance (*Manual for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water, Fifth Edition, 2005*). The deviations listed below must be corrected within 60 days with a written notice to the Department of Environment and Conservation Division of Water Resources.

### **II. Deviations**

No deviations.

### **III. Remarks**

1. The laboratory's Quality Assurance (QA) Plan and SOPs were reviewed as part of the audit. Include the date on the cover page each time the document is reviewed and/or updated. The lab's QA plan was last revised in March 2021. QA plans should be reviewed and updated at least annually.
2. During the audit personnel/training files for laboratory personnel were reviewed. It was noted that a few of the analysts' most recent demonstrations of capability were conducted two to three years ago. The files should be updated at least annually with relevant information such as demonstrations of capability, laboratory/method education documentation, training certificates, continuing education and professional development credits, etc. (Certification Manual, Chapter V, 1.1 & 1.4)

Employee training files should clearly show that all analysts have satisfactorily demonstrated acceptable results on unknown samples using the methods and products employed by the lab before running compliance samples. (Certification Manual, Chapter V. 1.2) This can be done by having the analysts test split samples, spiked samples, the required annual performance test samples, or perform quarterly positive and negative control tests under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor. Veteran analysts should also demonstrate this ability periodically.

#### **IV. Personnel**

In the event of key personnel changes in the laboratory, the Certification Officer needs to be notified within 30 days of the change (Chapter III, 14.1 Criteria for Downgrading Certification Status, the *Manual for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water, Fifth Edition, 2005*). Non-notification of some personnel changes may cause the laboratory certification to be downgraded.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at (931) 200-6715 or [will.pride@tn.gov](mailto:will.pride@tn.gov).

Sincerely,



Will Pride  
Laboratory Certification Officer  
Tennessee Division of Water Resources

cc: File



*State of Tennessee*

Department of Environment & Conservation

Division of Water Resources

Certifies That

**Columbia Water Plant**

*Having Met the Requirements of the Regulations for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water is hereby Approved as a*

**State Certified Microbiological Laboratory**

*To perform the Analyses*

*Total coliform – Enzyme Substrate Method (Colilert®) – SM9223  
Escherichia coli – Enzyme Substrate Method (Colilert®) – SM9223*

*For the Public Water Systems of Tennessee*

**Laboratory ID Number TN03009**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Will Pride".

*Will Pride*

*Laboratory Certification Officer*

*Division of Water Resources*

Issue Date: Feb. 5, 2024

Effective Date: Jan. 12, 2024    Expiration Date: Jan. 12, 2027

*This certification is subject to performance on E.P.A. Performance Evaluation Samples, laboratory inspections, payment of annual fees, is nontransferable and supersedes previously issued certificates.*