

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

In The Matter of The Plaza Associates
St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.

ORDER

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On July 7, 1987, the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) was contacted by Mr. Eric Tillett, President of Tutu Water with regards to an odor emanating from the raw well water on his property located at Anna's Retreat #126, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. As such, DPNR recommended to Mr. Tillett that immediate investigation be implemented into this matter. Upon investigation, said company voluntarily ceased pumping operations on July 8, 1987.

On July 10, 1987, DPNR requested the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide technical support to carry out its investigation of possible contamination of all wells in the Tutu and Turpentine Run areas of St. Thomas.

Samples were taken by EPA/TAT (Technical Assistant Team) on July 22, 1987 of several wells in the affected areas and analyzed at an independent EPA certified laboratory. Preliminary results of said analysis indicated that Benzene, and Trichloethylene among other contaminants were present in said samples in quantities above the maximum contaminant level developed by EPA under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. It has been established that the potential exists for wells in this area to be used as potable water supplies. A determination that contaminants are present in a potable water supply in excess of the maximum contaminant level allows the commencement of an enforcement action as provided in 40 CFR 141 and 143.

Therefore, pursuant to my authority under Title 19, Section 1305 of the Virgin Islands Safe Drinking Water Act and based upon preliminary findings submitted to DPNR on July 28, 1987, indicating contamination is present in the water in the area where your well is located, that your well may be considered a Public Water Supply (PWS); and that operation of said well may adversely affect contamination in this area which may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the health of the public.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that The Plaza Associates wells located at #392 Estate Anna's Retreat St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. be closed and that all pumping cease until further notice.

DATED: Aug 7, 1987


David C. Canegata
Assistant Commissioner