

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

In The Matter of Tutu Waters
St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.

ORDER

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 Annas 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 area of St. Thomas, near Turpentine Run.

Samples were taken by EPA/TAT (Technical Assistant Team) on July 22, 1987 and analyzed at an independent EPA certified laboratory. Preliminary results of said analysis indicated that Benzene and Trichlorethylene among other contaminants were present in said samples and in this public water system in quantities above the maximum contaminant level developed by EPA under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. 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.

Order-Tutu Water

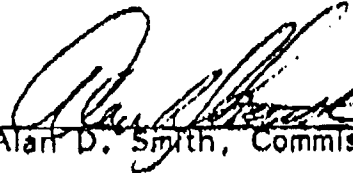
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Therefore, pursuant to my authority under Title 19, Section 1305 of the Virgin Islands Safe Drinking Water Act and based upon preliminary findings submitted to DPNR on July 28, 1987, indicating contamination is present in your Public Water Supply System (PWSS) which may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the health of the public, it is hereby

ORDERED that Tutu Water well located at Annas Retreat #126, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. be closed and of all pumping cease until further notice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Tillett submit a list to include name and phone number; of all business(s)/person(s) who have received water from said supply system from January 1, 1987 through July, 28, 1987 by the close of business on Friday, July 31, 1987.

DATED: July 31, 1987


Alan D. Smith, Commissioner