



April 20, 2021

Rural Municipality of Keys No. 303
PO Box 899
CANORA SK SOA 0L0

Dear Reeve and Council:

Thank you for your April 14, 2021 application to convert the Hamlet of Crystal Lake waterworks system from a human consumptive waterworks to a hygienic waterworks. Upon review, and with information gathered from discussion with the Rural Municipality (RM) of Keys No. 303, it is our understanding that the RM may wish to continue to expand this water distribution system in the future and ultimately upgrade it to meet all human consumptive water quality and treatment standards. Currently, the hamlet does not have a declining population and could in fact see growth in the coming years. Keeping this in mind, and with the number of service connections that are already serviced by the waterworks, the Water Security Agency (WSA) cannot support approval of the hygienic status application.

WSA will be issuing a Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory (PDWA) upon startup of the waterworks this year that instructs residents not to consume the distributed water due to elevated arsenic levels. WSA will require a commitment by the RM to address the water quality issues within five years. A clause will be added to the Permit to Operate a Waterworks requiring that the upgrade be completed by May 1, 2026.

The RM should seek to implement a funding model and utility rates based on expected costs for the upgrade and WSA encourages you to continue to apply for funding as it comes available.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 306.621.2230.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Sheichuk".

Rick Sheichuk
Environmental Project Officer
Water Security Agency