

2008 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: Tranquillity Irrigation District Report Date: June 25, 2009

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2008.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Type of water source(s) in use: Two Deep Wells
Name & location of source(s): Well #4 – near community Fire Station & Well #5 – near District Office
System # 1010030

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: DHS Visalia District, Completed assessment Feb 2001 Vulnerability Auto gas stations or historic gas stations. Copies of reports available at TID office

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Meetings held on third Tuesday of Each month @ 8:30 am. Location = TID office 25390 W Silveira St

For more information, contact: Danny M Wade, General Manager Phone: (559) 698-7225

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Variations and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the state Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA					
Microbiological Contaminants (to be completed only if there was a detection of bacteria)	Highest No. of detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.)	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	(In the year)	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER						
Lead and Copper (to be completed only if there was a detection of lead or copper in the last sample set)	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	10	1.7	1	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	10	.0042	0	1.3	0.17	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	09/05/07	241	240-242	none	none	Generally found in ground & surface water
Hardness (ppm)	09/05/07	42.7	33.3-52	none	none	Generally found in ground & surface water

*Any violation of an MCL or AL is marked with an asterisk. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic * (ppb)	11/08	16.6	16.1-17.1	10	2	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production waste
Nitrate (ppm)	09/08	ND	ND	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	09/07	4.2	3.8-4.5	50	(100)	Discharge from steel & pulp mills & chrome plating; erosion of natural dep.
Chlorine	2008	0.78	0.1-1.82	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Fluoride (ppm)	03/05/07	0.7	0.6-0.8	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizers & aluminum factories
TTHM – Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	09/05/07	36.3	36.3	80	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 – Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	09/05/07	1.9	1.9	60	n/a	Chlorine by-products

TABLE 5 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Manganese* (ppb)	09/05/07	65.2	38.8-91.6	50		Leaching from natural deposits
Chloride (ppm)	09/05/07	77.1	54.3-99.9	500		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Zinc (ppb)	09/05/07	27.5	Nd-55	5000		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Color (units)	09/05/07	5	5	15		Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	09/05/07	833 umho/cm	830-836 umho/cm	900 umho/cm		Substances that form irons when in water; seawater influence
Turbidity (units)	09/05/07	0.2	0.1-0.3	5		Soil runoff
Sulfate (ppm)	09/05/07	312	273-351	500		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Total Dissolved Solids TDS (ppm)	09/05/07	745	720-770	1000		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

TABLE 6 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Notification Level	Health Effects Language

*Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Additional General Information on Drinking Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL, MRDL, or AL, or a Violation of Any Treatment Technique or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

Arsenic:

On more than one occasion in 2008, arsenic levels were detected in your drinking water that exceeds the EPA (federal) standard (MCL of 10 micrograms/liter). The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Tranquillity Irrigation District is working with the California Department of Health (CADPH) to correct the arsenic problem exceeding the federal MCL. The District submitted an application for funding in December 2006 to the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. The District anticipates receiving funding for treatment, new wells, and/or mixing to meet the Federal arsenic standard, with final improvements anticipated to be completed by 2010 or 2011.

Manganese:

This was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL of 50 parts per billion. This MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects such as color, taste, odor, staining of plumbing fixtures (porcelain) and clothing while washing. High manganese comes from leaching of natural deposits in soil and rocks.

Bacteriological Monitoring:

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During December 2008 we did not monitor or test for total coliform bacteria and during March & April of 2009 we did not collect the correct number of samples in response to a detection of total coliform bacteria. We therefore cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water during these times.

The sample on 03/25/09 showed present for total coliforms and absent for E.Coli. The MPN index per 100 ml of sample was >23.0 for total coliforms.

The sample on 04/28/09 was present for total coliforms and absent for E.Coli. The MPN index per 100 ml of sample was 1.1 for total coliforms.

The sample on 04/30/09 was present for total coliforms and absent for E.Coli. The MPN index per 100 ml of sample was 6.9 for total coliforms.

Potential health effects: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. The District has taken steps to correct this potential problem by increasing the monitoring for coliform bacteria and increasing the amount of chlorine injected into the system.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Tranquillity Irrigation District Has Levels of Arsenic Above the Drinking Water Standard

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Water sample results received on 05/06/09 showed average arsenic levels of 13.10 ppb. This is above the U.S. EPA standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.010 milligrams per liter.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).**
- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, *some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, and may have an increased risk to getting cancer.*
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Tranquillity Irrigation District is working with the California Department of Health (CADPH) to correct the arsenic problem exceeding the federal MCL. The District submitted an application for funding in December 2006 to the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. The District anticipates receiving funding for treatment, new wells, and/or mixing to meet the federal arsenic standard, with final improvements anticipated to be completed by 2010 or 2011.

For more information, please contact Danny M Wade, General Manager, at (559) 698-7225 or by mail PO Box 487, Tranquillity, CA 93668.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- SCHOOLS: Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by Tranquillity Irrigation District.

State Water System ID#: 1010030. Date distributed: 06/26/2009.