

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monthly Total Organic Carbon Removal Requirements Not Being Met by the Cimarron Water System

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

We monitor monthly for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal and maintain a running annual average (RAA) of the results. During the third quarter of 2021 the RAA for TOC removal was less than required.

What does this mean?

This ongoing TOC violation is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified immediately.

Total organic carbon has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products. These by-products include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these by-products in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, please contact your health care professional.

What is being done?

We are working with NMED to improve water treatment. We will have a new treatment plant later this year or early next year designed to reduce TOC.

We anticipate resolving the TOC problem within 3 months.

For more information, please contact: Shawn Jeffrey 575-376-2232
Cimarron Water System, NM3526204
PO Box 654,
Cimarron, NM 87714

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 notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Cimarron Water System Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

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

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water samples for [month year] showed that [percentage] percent of turbidity measurements were over 0.3 turbidity units. The standard is that no more than 5 percent of samples may exceed 0.3 turbidity units (NTU) per month. The turbidity levels are relatively low. However, their persistence is a concern. Normal turbidity levels at our surface water treatment facility are [number] units.

We routinely monitor for Turbidity from the filtered water. During the month of September 2021, less than 95% of the measurements were below 0.3 NTU. This is a violation of the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. We do not know of any contamination, and none of our testing has shown disease-causing organisms in the drinking water.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. **Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.** These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What is being done? We changed additives and we are currently working with New Mexico Rural Water Association and the New Mexico Environment Department. With the new additive, turbidity is back within compliant range.

For more information, please contact:

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