2011 Consumer Confidence Report

JUL 2012
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DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH
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Water System Name: **Beef Packers Water System** Report Date: 6/29/2012

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, 2011.

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: Wells

Name & location of source(s): Well 1 (located at SE corner of Fresno Grind), Well 2 (located at NE corner of Fresno Grind, Well 3 (located North of Boiler Room), and Well 4 (located West of Generator Building).

Drinking Water Source Assessment information:

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Meetings are held every other Tuesday at 10:00am in the Main Conference Room. Any employee is welcome to attend.

For more information, contact: Delshawn Brown Phone: (559) 268-5586 ext. 130

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 highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

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.

Variances 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)

ppq: parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/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 by-products 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, 5, 7, and 8 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 (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 1	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or *E. coli*	(In the year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or *E. coli*	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	No. of samples collected	90th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	7/8/2011 10 sites	0.69	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	7/8/2011 10 sites	0.29	0	1.3	0.3	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)	3/26/10	32		none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	3/26/10	280		none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

**Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. 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
Nitrate	3/26/10	51 ppm	23-81* PPM	45 ppm	45 ppm	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Aluminum	3/26/10	0.0056 ppm		1 ppm	0.6 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Arsenic	3/26/10	3.1 ppb		10 ppb	0.004 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production waste
Barium	3/26/10	0.00100 ppm		1 ppm	2 ppm	Discharge from oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	3/26/10	5.6 ppb		100 ppb	100 ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion from natural deposits
Nickel	3/26/10	1.7 ppb		100 ppb	12 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories

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
Aluminum	3/26/10	56 ppb		1 ppm	0.6 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes

TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
None					

**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 Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

VIOLATION OF A MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT				
Violation	**Explanation**	**Duration**	**Actions Taken to Correct the Violation**	**Health Effects Language**
See description below				

*Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

If a utility cannot demonstrate to the Department with at least five years of the most current monitoring data that its nitrate levels are stable, it must also add the following language to the preceding statement on nitrate: *Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity.*

Our water system contains two wells that exceed the MCL of 45 mg/L for nitrates.

We are currently providing bottled water for all customers to drink and posting public notifications for high levels of nitrate. We will continue to provide drinking water and post notifications every three months until the problem is corrected. Wells producing water with lower nitrate levels are being used primarily (wells 1 & 2) and the high nitrate sources are out of service (well 3) or have limited use (well 4).

For Water Systems Providing Ground Water as a Source of Drinking Water

TABLE 7 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUND WATER SOURCE SAMPLES					
Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	**Total No. of Detections**	**Sample Dates**	**MCL [MRDL]**	**PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
E. coli	(In the year)		0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	(In the year)		TT	n/a	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	(In the year)		TT	n/a	Human and animal fecal waste

Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Ground Water Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Ground Water TT

SPECIAL NOTICE OF FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUND WATER SOURCE SAMPLE

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR UNCORRECTED SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

VIOLATION OF GROUND WATER TT				
TT Violation	**Explanation**	**Duration**	**Actions Taken to Correct the Violation**	**Health Effects Language**

For Systems Providing Surface Water as a Source of Drinking Water

TABLE 8 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING TREATMENT OF SURFACE WATER SOURCES	
Treatment Technique [(a)] (Type of approved filtration technology used)	
Turbidity Performance Standards [(b)] (that must be met through the water treatment process)	Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1 – Be less than or equal to _____ NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 – Not exceed _____ NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 – Not exceed ____ NTU at any time.
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.	
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year	
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements	

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

(b) Turbidity (measured in NTU) is a measurement of the cloudiness of water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance. Turbidity results which meet performance standards are considered to be in compliance with filtration requirements.

** Any violation of a TT is marked with an asterisk. Additional information regarding the violation is provided below.*

Summary Information for Violation of a Surface Water TT

VIOLATION OF A SURFACE WATER TT				
TT Violation	**Explanation**	**Duration**	**Actions Taken to Correct the Violation**	**Health Effects Language**

Summary Information for Operating Under a Variance or Exemption