

# THE CITY OF POMONA



# 2012

## ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2011

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Water/Wastewater Operations  
505 S. Garey Avenue  
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## Dear Customers,

This report is for citizens like yourself to have confidence that the water you drink is both reliable and safe. Noted below are some highlights of the report:

- Pomona's water supply, delivered to the meters and taps in your homes and businesses, meets all State and Federal drinking water standards
- The City has not violated these standards in past years
- Drinking water standards are set very high to protect you from contaminants that present a risk to human health. In fact, scientists, toxicologists, biologists, chemists, and risk managers constantly study the standards to make sure they promote public safety
- Your water rates have funded wells, pump stations, treatment plants, pipelines, and water meters which are the backbone of the City's water system
- These rates are constantly watched by your City Council to insure you are getting the best value for your investment
- The City's water system utilizes groundwater from wells, surface water from San Antonio Canyon, recycled water from the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, and imported water from the Three Valleys Municipal Water District and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- This system, because of its diversity, is recognized by other cities and agencies as one of the most versatile and reliable in the region
- Your Water staff works hard to insure we use the best technology and treatment processes to keep your water safe and clean

I encourage you to read the Water Quality Table and the rest of this report so you can assure your family and acquaintances that the City of Pomona's water meets standards for drinking, cooking, washing, and all the other activities to make your life better.

We appreciate any comments you may have. If you have additional questions regarding the quality of your water or information contained in this report, please contact us at (909) 620-2251 or by using E-services at the City's website ([www.ci.pomona.ca.us](http://www.ci.pomona.ca.us)). You may also provide feedback to Pomona's City Council. The City Council meets regularly at 6:45 PM on the first and third Monday of each month in the Council Chambers located at 505 S. Garey Avenue.

-Daryl R. Grigsby, Public Works Director

## Important Notice

**This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.**

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

**Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.**

此份有關你的飲水報告，內有重要資料和訊息，請找他人為你翻譯并解釋清楚

**Chi tiết này thật quan trọng.  
Xin nhờ người dịch cho quý vị.**



*City staff maintaining treatment facilities.*

## Where does your water come from?

In 2011, approximately 71% of Pomona's potable water is produced from City owned wells. Water from these wells is produced from three groundwater aquifers: Chino Basin, Six Basins, and Spadra Basin. The wells are located throughout the City of Pomona and in Claremont. Water is treated depending on the type of contaminant and concentrations found. The City currently operates two air stripping facilities for removal of volatile organic compounds and three anion exchange facilities for nitrate and perchlorate removal.

An additional 16% of our water originates from the San Gabriel Mountains where it flows into the San Antonio Canyon. This source is processed by the City's Frank G. Pedley Memorial Filtration Plant where it is filtered and disinfected with chlorine.

The remaining 13% of Pomona's water is provided from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD). Both MWD and TVMWD import surface water from the Colorado River and Northern California. Colorado River water is brought via MWD's 242 mile Colorado River Aqueduct from an intake point at Lake Havasu on the California-Arizona border. Water supplies from Northern California are drawn from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and is delivered to Southern California via the 441 mile long California Aqueduct. These sources are treated and chloraminated at MWD's Weymouth Water Treatment Plant in the City of La Verne, and at TVMWD's Miramar Water Treatment Plant in the City of Claremont.



## 8th Annual San Antonio Canyon Watershed Cleanup

Please join us on Saturday, July 7, 2012 as we volunteer to clean and maintain the watershed that supplies water to our City. Dress appropriately and bring sun protection. For more information call (909) 620-2251.

# 2011 WATER QUALITY TABLE

## Pomona Water Distribution System

PRIMARY STANDARDS  
Mandatory Health Related Standards

	State MCL	State PHG					Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
	[MRDL]	Federal (MCLG)	[MRDLG]					
<b>DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS, DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS, &amp; DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS PRECURSORS</b>								
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	Range / Highest Running Annual Average ND-52.5 / 16.1				No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	ND-24.3 / 6.9				No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Chlorine Residual as Cl <sub>2</sub> (ppm)	[4.0]	[4]	ND-2.80 / 0.98				No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL</b>								
Total Coliform (% Positive)	5.0% (a)	0	Range / Highest Monthly Percentage 0-2.4% / 2.4%				No	Naturally present in the environment

## Imported Water Pomona Water

SECONDARY STANDARDS  
Aesthetic Standards

	State MCL	State PHG	Weymouth	Miramar	Groundwater	Surface Water	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
	[MRDL]	Federal (MCLG)	[MRDLG]					
<b>CLARITY</b>								
Plant Effluent Turbidity (NTU)	TT (b)	N/A	Highest Measurement / Lowest Monthly Percentage 0.07 0.19 N/A 0.17				No	Soil runoff
	95% (b)	N/A	%<0.3 = 100% %<0.3 = 100% %<0.2 = 100.0%					
<b>ORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>								
Dibromochloropropane (ppt)	200	1.7	Range / Average (or Highest Running Annual Average) ND ND ND-28 / ND (c) ND				No	Banned nematocide that may still be present in soils due to runoff/leaching from former use on soybeans, cotton, vineyards, tomatoes
1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	6	10	ND	ND	ND-2.1 / 0.68	ND	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	5	0.06	ND	ND	ND-4.5 / 1.7	ND	No	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	5	1.7	ND	ND	ND-4.3 / 1.9	ND	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>								
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	ND-0.22 / (0.11)	ND	ND-0.070 / ND	0.093-0.18 / 0.13	No	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from other surface water treatment processes
Barium (ppm)	1	2	ND	ND	ND-0.11 / ND	ND	No	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.7-1.0 / 0.8	0.11	0.23-0.59 / 0.30	0.40-0.43 / 0.42	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as NO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	45	45	ND-1.8 / ND	ND-3.1 / 8.0	2.0-37 / 15	ND-4.7 / ND	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Perchlorate (ppb)	6	6	ND	ND	ND-4.5 / ND	ND	No	Perchlorate is an inorganic chemical used in solid rocket propellant, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches, fertilizers, and a variety of industries
<b>RADIOLOGICALS (d)</b>								
Gross alpha (pCi/L)	15	0	ND-3 / ND	NC	ND-7.86 / ND	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross beta (pCi/L)	50	0	ND-6 / 4	ND	ND-8.85 / ND	ND	No	Decay of natural and manmade deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	1-2 / 2	NC	ND-6.86 / 1.97	1.13	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Aluminum (ppb)	200	600	ND-220 / (110)	ND	ND-70 / ND	93-180 / 134	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Chloride (ppm)	500	N/A	63-76 / 70	31	5.1-120 / 68.1	4.6-5.8 / 5.2	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Units)	15	N/A	1-2 / 2	ND	ND	ND	N/A	Naturally-occurring organic materials
<b>Pomona Distribution System: Range / Average</b>								
Distribution System Turbidity (NTU)	5	N/A	ND-0.62 / ND				N/A	Soil runoff
Iron (ppb)	300	N/A	ND	ND	ND-220 / ND	ND	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	1800	N/A	320-870 / 630	320-340 / 330	350-1100 / 656	320-340 / 330	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	500	N/A	120-170 / 150	31	13-190 / 61	17-21 / 19	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Threshold Odor (TON)	3	N/A	2 / 2	1	1 / 1	1 / 1	N/A	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	N/A	390-480 / 440	190-200 / 195	210-740 / 426	180-190 / 185	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

REQUIRED MONITORING

<b>LEAD AND COPPER RULE (e)</b>								
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3	0.3	Pomona: 90th Percentile / # Sites above AL 0.20 / 0				N/A	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	AL = 15	0.2	3.7 / 1				N/A	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
<b>FEDERAL UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE - SECOND CYCLE (UCMR2) (f)</b>								
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (ppt)	N/A	N/A	ND-3 / ND	ND	ND-6.8 / 1.1	N/A	N/A	By-product of treatment process

ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS

Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	N/A	N/A	43-110 / 82	65-77 / 71	98-300 / 171	140-150 / 145	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Boron (ppb)	N/A	NL=1000	130	130-200 / 165	N/A	N/A	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Calcium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	41-54 / 48	21-23 / 22	46-140 / 81	45-48 / 47	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorate (ppb)	N/A	NL=800	ND-58 / 42 (g)	ND	N/A	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination; industrial processes
Corrosivity - Aggressiveness Index (AI)	N/A	N/A	12.1	11.8-11.9 / 11.8	11.9-12.5 / 12.1	11.8	N/A	Natural or industrially-influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon and oxygen in water, affected by temperature and other factors
Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	N/A	N/A	60-250 / 170	80	150-500 / 268	150 / 150	N/A	"Hardness" is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	N/A	0.02	0.09	ND	1.5-2.2 / 1.8	ND	N/A	Discharges from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	16-21 / 18	7.4	7.4-35 / 16	8.5-9.1 / 8.8	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (ppt)	NL=10	3	ND-8 / ND (g)	ND	ND	N/A	N/A	By-product of treatment process
pH (units)	N/A	N/A	7.8-8.8 / 8.1	8.01-8.57 / 8.33	7.42-7.90 / 7.65	7.64-7.93 / 7.79	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Potassium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	3.4-4.1 / 3.8	1.3-1.9 / 1.6	1.9-2.9 / 2.3	1.6-1.7 / 1.7	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	62-76 / 69	28	7.5-49 / 25	8.1 / 8.1	N/A	"Sodium" refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	TT	N/A	1.7-2.9 / 2.3	1.5-3.4 / 2.2	N/A	0.36-4.8 / 1.1	N/A	Various natural and manmade sources
1,4-Dioxane (ppb)	N/A	NL=1	N/A	N/A	ND-4.0 / ND (h)	N/A	N/A	Discharge from factories

## Definitions

**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 United States 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** - MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Secondary Standards** - Secondary Standards relate to aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor, and color. These are set by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

**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.

**Notification Level (NL)** - The level at which notification of the public water system's governing body is required.

## Abbreviations

< = Denotes "less than"

N/A = Not Applicable

NC = Not Collected

ND = Non-Detect

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

pCi/L = picoCuries per Liter

µS/cm = microsiemen per centimeter

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per Liter (mg/L)

ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per Liter (µg/L)

ppt = parts per trillion or nanograms per Liter (ng/L)

TON = Threshold Odor Number

## Footnotes

- (a) No more than 5.0% of monthly samples may be total coliform positive.
- (b) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity level of filtered water shall be less than or equal to 0.2 NTU in 95% of measurements taken each month for the City of Pomona Pedley Filtration Plant and less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of measurements taken each month for Weymouth and Miramar Treatment Plants.
- (c) Samples were collected in 2010-2011 for Pomona.
- (d) Radiological data for Pomona were collected from 2006-2011. For gross beta, CDPH considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern.
- (e) The Lead and Copper Rule requires water samples to be collected at the consumer's tap. If the regulatory AL is exceeded in more than 10% of the consumer tap samples, steps must be taken to reduce these contaminants. A total of 74 sites were sampled in 2010.
- (f) Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA and the CDPH to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminant needs to be regulated. UCMR data for Weymouth were collected in 2009. Miramar data were collected from April 2009 - January 2010. Pomona's data were collected October 2008 - July 2009.
- (g) Distribution system-wide range.
- (h) CDPH required monitoring in 2011.

## Source Water Assessment

In accordance with CDPH requirements, groundwater source assessments are conducted regularly for all of the active wells serving the City of Pomona on a routine basis. Those sources are vulnerable to known contaminant plumes, human activities, and applications of fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides.

Surface water source assessment for the San Antonio Watershed is conducted frequently. This source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: recreation activities in and adjacent to the stream, forest fires, septic systems, and wastewater collection systems in the Mt. Baldy area.

Information about both of these source water assessments is available at: Department of Public Health Drinking Water Field Ops., Southern California Branch, 500 North Central Ave., Suite 500, Glendale, CA 91203. CDPH phone number is (818) 551-2004.

MWD and TVMWD monitor water resources from the Colorado River and California State Water Project. Colorado River supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to recreation, urban/stormwater runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed and wastewater. State Water Project supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to urban/stormwater runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation and wastewater. A copy of the assessments can be obtained by contacting MWD at (213) 217-6850 or TVMWD at (909)621-5568.

## For People with Sensitive Immune Systems

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).

## Basic Information About Drinking Water Contaminants

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 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).

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 CDPH 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. The City monitors water quality per CDPH permit requirements. Not all the chemicals are required to be tested annually. Some of the data shown in this report are the same as they were published in the previous year.



Water samples are collected and analyzed to ensure compliance.

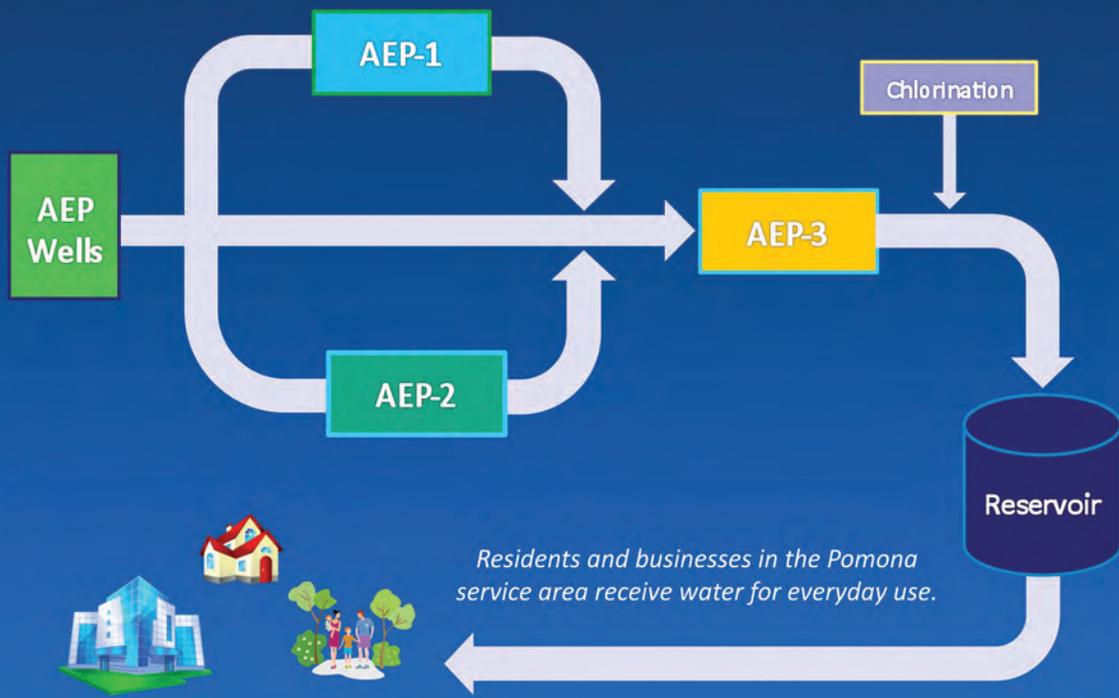
## Special Information

**Lead:** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Pomona is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

**Nitrate** in drinking water at levels above 45 parts per million 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 a 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 certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

**Cryptosporidium** is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water and/or finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

## Groundwater Treatment at the Anion Exchange Facilities



### What's being done about perchlorate in the water?

**Perchlorate** is an inorganic chemical present in solid rocket propellants, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches, and some fertilizers. Perchlorate may have adverse health effects because scientific research indicates that this contaminant can disrupt the thyroid's ability to produce hormones needed for normal growth and development.

The City of Pomona operates two anion exchange plants (AEP) to treat the nitrate levels of groundwater supply. The AEP-1 and AEP-2 were designed and constructed to reduce nitrate concentrations; although small amounts of perchlorate are removed during the process. In October 2007, CDPH established a perchlorate MCL of 6 parts per billion, impacting the City's groundwater supply and operations. Following the establishment of the perchlorate MCL, the City has controlled perchlorate concentrations in flows by shutting down wells with higher perchlorate concentrations and began operating the AEP-1 and AEP-2 at increased treatment levels.

Since the perchlorate issue has been one of the most significant challenges to the City's groundwater supply, in 2008 a study was conducted to develop treatment process alternatives for increasing the use of groundwater. The study found that the most cost-effective treatment process configuration would be to continue using the AEP-1 and the AEP-2 for nitrate treatment and to install a perchlorate treatment plant downstream.

A new anion exchange plant (AEP-3) is currently under construction. The AEP-3 will provide supplemental treatment for

perchlorate, help to sustain current production levels, and increase production capacity in the Chino Basin. This treatment plant will enable the City to treat for perchlorate and activate wells currently shut down due to high levels of perchlorate. Construction of the AEP-3 is expected to be completed in the summer of 2012 with CDPH's approval for operation shortly thereafter.

### Questions?

*For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water quality, please call Kaying Lee at (909) 620-2251 during our current hours of operation (M-Th 6:30 AM - 4:30 PM).*

*For urgent water quality concerns outside of normal working hours, please call customer service at (909) 620-2241.*