

2013 Consumer Confidence Report

Altman Plants Water System #1

June 26, 2014

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, 2013.

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

Type of water source: The water system at Altman Plants Water System #1 consists of one ground water located on Spence Road, Salinas, California.

Drinking Water Source Assessment: The water source assessment plan was not conducted at the time of this report.

For more information, contact: MCSI Water Systems Management Phone: (831) 659-5360

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.

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)

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 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 before we treat it 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 activities 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, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and California 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 must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Quality Data Tables

The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA					
Contaminant(s) (units)	Highest # Detected in a Month	# Of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Coliform	0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform/E Coli	0	0	A routine sample and repeat sample detect total Coliform and either sample also detects fecal Coliform or E. Coli	0	Human & animal fecal waste

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER							
Contaminant(s) (units)	Number of Site Collected	PHG	AL	90 th Percentile Level Detected	# of Samples > AI	Date	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	5	0.17	1.3	0.234	0	9/2013	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; internal corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (ppb)	5	2	15	3.5	0	9/2013	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF RADIOACTIVITY						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Average	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Gross Alpha Activity (pCi/L)	(0)	15	4.87		12/2013	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	0.43	20	4	3-5	2013	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL/ AL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Arsenic (ppb)	0.004	10	2		1/2011	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Fluoride (ppm)	1	2	0.34		1/2011	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrates (NO ₃) (ppm)	45	45	69.21	42-146	2013	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrates (NO ₃) (ppm) (R/O filtration)	45	45	13.83	ND-56	2013	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Perchlorate (ppb)	6	6	2.7		2012	Perchlorate is an inorganic chemical used in solid rocket propellant, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches, and a variety of industries. It usually gets into drinking water as a result of environmental contamination from historic aerospace or other industrial operations that used or use, store, or dispose of perchlorate and its salts.

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	NA	1000	7.55	2.5- 15.3	12/2007	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

SODIUM AND HARDNESS						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source	
Sodium (ppm)	NA	NA	62	6/2009	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring	
Hardness (ppm)	NA	NA	350	6/2009	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring.	

Additional Information on Drinking Water

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 Water Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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).

Lead Statement: 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. Altman Plants WS #1 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 drinking 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Monitoring and reporting violations:

- **Nitrate over MCL:** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant’s blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women. The water system installed a reverse osmosis system to remove the nitrates in the drinking water. One of the filtered samples for nitrates was over the MCL.
 - The water system is on a bottled water order from the Monterey Health department with quarterly notification of nitrates over the MCL

For Systems Providing Ground Water as a Source of Drinking Water

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUND WATER SOURCE SAMPLES					
Microbiological Contaminants <small>(complete if fecal-indicator detected)</small>	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
<i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0		0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste

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

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR UNCORRECTED DEFICIENCIES

- The water system is deficient due to nitrates over the MCL.

System Improvements and Updates:

- The water system is working with MCSI Water Systems Management and Monterey County Environmental Health to meet drinking water standards. The water system plans to install a larger reverse osmosis system in 2014.

Conservation and Drought Tips:

- Contact MCSI at (831) 659-5360 or The Water Awareness Committee at www.waterawareness.org for further information