

2015 Consumer Confidence Report



Water System Name: CITY OF FIREBAUGH Report Date: JUNE 15, 2016

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, 2015 and may include earlier monitoring data.

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: 6 GROUND WATER WELLS

Name & general location of source(s): WELLS #13, #15, #16 SERVE WATER TREATMENT SITE #1
WELLS #11, #12 AND #17 SERVE WATER TREATMENT SITE #2

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: Source water assessment surveys for Wells #11, #12 and #13 which produce water for the City of Firebaugh Water System was conducted on July 1st, 2002. A source water assessment survey was completed September 2012 for Wells #15 and #16. The State Water Resource Control Board Division of Drinking Water is currently working on the source water assessment for Well #17

Well #11

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: surface water bodies, automobile-gas stations and septic systems-high density >1 acre.

Well #12

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Surface water bodies, automobile-gas stations and septic systems-high >1 acre.

Well #13

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Surface water bodies, automobile-gas stations, landfill/dumps, waste water treatment plants and septic systems-higher density >1 acre.

Well #15

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: Schools

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Agricultural drainage.

Well #16

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: Airports-maintenance fueling areas, automobile-body shops, automobile-repair shops, fleet/truck/bus terminals, junk/scrap/salvage yards, schools.

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: historic gas stations.

Well #17

Not completed

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 6:00 pm. Location: Firebaugh Community Center 1655 13th Street Firebaugh Ca. 93622

For more information, contact: Anthony Chavarria Phone: (559) 659-2043

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: State Board 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 ($\mu\text{g/L}$)

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 Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board 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 State Board 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	0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	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 (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	7/23/2015	20	8.1	1	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	7/23/2015	20	.17	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)	2014	115.33	82 - 150	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2014	179.66	78 - 260	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
Arsenic (ppb)	2015	6.63	3.4 – 13	10	.004	Erosion of natural deposits: runoff from orchards; glass and electronics products wastes.
Treatment site #1	2015	.33	n/d – 2.6			
Treatment site #2	2015					
Barium (ppm)	2014	0.139	.076 - .2	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling waste and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2015	.86	.78 – 1.13	4	4	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Distribution system residual						
Fluoride (ppm)	2014	.05	n/d - .24	2	1	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the federal MCL of 4 mg/L over many years may get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones.

						Children who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the state MCL of 2 mg/L may get mottled teeth.
Gross alpha (pCi/L)	2011	4.81	n/d – 8.61	15	n/a	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2014	1.98	n/d – 4.5	50	30	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries: erosion of natural deposits: discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers
Turbidity (ntu)	2014	.723	n/d – 1.4	5	n/a	Soil runoff
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	2011	2.51	n/d – 5.08	5	.05	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increase chance of getting cancer
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	2015	.807	.615 – 1.0	5	.019	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increase chance of getting cancer
TTHM (ppb)	2015	60.5	56 – 65	80	n/a	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer
Haloacetic acid (ppb)	2015	10.5	10 – 11	60	n/a	Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer

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
Color (units)	2014	5	n/d – 10	15	n/a	Natural occurring organic materials.
Conductivity (uhmos/cm)	2014	893	890 – 1000	1600	n/a	Substances that form ions when in water: sea water influence
Chloride (ppm)	2014	151.5	89 – 180	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits: seawater influence
Iron (ppb)				300	n/a	Leaching from natural deposits. industrial waste
Treatment site #1	2015	6.7	n/d – 150			
Treatment site #2	2015	27	n/d – 790			
Manganese (ppb)				50	n/a	Leaching from natural deposits.
Treatment site #1	2015	4.38	n/d – 79			
Treatment site #2	2015	2.48	n/d – 29			
Odor (units)	2014	0.75	n/d – 2	3	n/a	Natural occurring organic matter.
Sulfate (ppm)	2014	83.8	57 – 120	500	n/a	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits: industrial wastes
Total dissolved solids (ppm)	2014	536.6	390 -590	1000	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Chlorate (ppb) Treatment site #2 (raw) Distribution system	2013 2013	1222 715	944 -1500 431 – 1000	800	EPA does not have health effect language at this time.

*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).

Lead-Specific Language for Community Water Systems: 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. [INSERT NAME OF UTILITY] 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. [Optional: If you do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants.] 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 <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

For systems that detect Arsenic above 5 ppb but below 10 ppb the following language is required;

While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. 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.

**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
none				

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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
<i>E. coli</i>	0		0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	0		TT	n/a	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	0		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
none				