

# Consumer Confidence Report Certification Form

(To be submitted with a copy of the CCR)

Water System Name: Rubio Canon Land and Water Association

Water System Number: 1910140

The water system named above hereby certifies that its Consumer Confidence Report was distributed on June 1, 2016 (date) to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given). Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW).

Certified by: Name: Armando De La Paz  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Operations Manager  
Phone Number: ( 626 ) 797-0509 Date: 5/12/2016

*To summarize report delivery used and good-faith efforts taken, please complete this page by checking all items that apply and fill-in where appropriate:*

- CCR was distributed by mail or other direct delivery methods (attach description of other direct delivery methods used).
- CCR was distributed using electronic delivery methods described in the Guidance for Electronic Delivery of the Consumer Confidence Report (water systems utilizing electronic delivery methods must complete the second page).
- "Good faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following methods:
  - Posting the CCR at the following URL: www. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area (attach zip codes used)
  - Advertising the availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of press release)
  - Publication of the CCR in a local newspaper of general circulation (attach a copy of the published notice, including name of newspaper and date published)
  - Posted the CCR in public places (attach a list of locations)
  - Delivery of multiple copies of CCR to single-billed addresses serving several persons, such as apartments, businesses, and schools
  - Delivery to community organizations (attach a list of organizations)
  - Publication of the CCR in the electronic city newsletter or electronic community newsletter or listserv (attach a copy of the article or notice)
  - Electronic announcement of CCR availability via social media outlets (attach list of social media outlets utilized)
  - Other (attach a list of other methods used)
- For systems serving at least 100,000 persons: Posted CCR on a publicly-accessible internet site at the following URL: www. \_\_\_\_\_
- For privately-owned utilities: Delivered the CCR to the California Public Utilities Commission







## **2015 Annual Water Quality Report**

### ***Rubio Cañon Land and Water Association***

Rubio Cañon Land and Water Association (RCLWA) is a mutual water company established in 1886 located in the unincorporated town of Altadena, in Los Angeles County, California. For 130 years, RCLWA has supplied potable drinking water to the central and eastern portions of Altadena, north of Pasadena. The approximate population is 9,600 people served by approximately 3,140 water service connections. A five member Board of Directors governs RCLWA. The mission of RCLWA is to provide shareholders within its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way. In addition to supplying high quality water, RCLWA is continuing to upgrade its infrastructure to ensure that your water will be reliably available. We are doing this by evaluating our system of pipes and replacing through improvement projects throughout the year.

### ***Conserving our most precious resource***

Altadena is a semi-desert area which depends on limited supplies of imported water to supplement the local water. Conservation is always important. On April 1, 2015, Governor Brown issued a new Executive Order that directs the State Water Board to impose restrictions on urban water suppliers to achieve a statewide 25 percent reduction. RCLWA is required to conserve an additional 9 percent, for a total of 34 percent in potable urban usage through January 2017; require commercial, industrial, and institutional users to implement water efficiency measures; prohibit irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf in public street medians; and prohibit irrigation with potable water outside newly constructed homes and buildings that is not delivered by drip or micro-spray systems; along with other directives. For more information on how you can help conserve water and prevent water waste please visit our web site at [www.rclwa.org](http://www.rclwa.org) | [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com) | [www.saveourwater.com](http://www.saveourwater.com).

RCLWA provides potable drinking water via groundwater wells, a conventional treatment plant and from an imported source. The imported source water is obtained from Foothill Municipal Water District, a member agency of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Between the months of November through April, typically we do not operate our wells. We import water almost exclusively during this period since purchased water is historically more readily available during the winter months. During the remaining months we operate our wells as the primary source of potable drinking water. By pumping our wells during the summer months we can save operating costs. RCLWA's treatment plant treats water that is acquired from the local foothill area. In 2015, RCLWA pumped 1,656 acre-feet, treated 88 acre-feet of water, and we did not have to import water in 2015. An acre foot of water is equal to 325,851 gallons.

### ***Water quality monitoring***

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. In order to be certain that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

In 2015, RCLWA conducted thousands of water quality tests for more than 100 different contaminants. We test weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually, and every three years depending on the substance. All water quality samples are pulled by specially trained and state-certified operators and analyzed by state-certified independent laboratories. Once again, we are pleased to report the water delivered to your home or business complied with, or exceeded all State and Federal Drinking Water requirements. It is important that you know what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. For your information, the following tables have been compiled to show what substances were detected in RCLWA's water supplies during 2015. The State allows RCLWA to monitor some contaminants less than once per year due to the concentrations of these contaminants infrequent changes. Some data, though representative, are more than one year old.

### ***People with sensitive immune systems***

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. When ingested, the organism may cause nausea, diarrhea and other gastrointestinal symptoms. The organism comes from animal wastes and may be found in surface watersheds. Water purchased from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California via Foothill Municipal Water District was tested for Cryptosporidium in 2015 and it was not detected in the water. If detected, Cryptosporidium is eliminated by an effective treatment combination including sedimentation, filtration and disinfection.

Some people may be more vulnerable to constituents in the water than the general population. Immunocompromised people, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice from their healthcare provider about their drinking water.

The USEPA and the Centers for Disease Control have guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants, which are available through the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791, and online at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline/>.

## Surface Water Quality Data

	<b>RCLWA</b>	<b>MWD Purchased Water</b>	
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Parameter	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detection	Average Amount	Range of Detection	MCL Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Radiological</b>								
Alpha Radiation (pCi/L)	15	(0)	14	10 - 18	N/D	N/D - 4	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	(5)	13	0 - 20	3.0	2 - 3.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>								
Aluminum (ug/L)	200	N/A	N/D	0 - 200	156	88 - 200	No	Residue from water treatment process
Arsenic (ug/L)	10	.004	.73	0 - 10	2.1	2.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/L) <sup>(A)</sup>	2	1	2.3 <sup>(A)</sup>	1.2 - 2.8	0.8	0.6 - 1.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (mg/L as NO3)	45	45	2.8	3.2 - 5.8	N/D	N/D	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Secondary Standards <sup>(B)</sup></b>								
Chloride (mg/L)	500	N/A	7.9 <sup>(B)</sup>	4.8 - 12	100 <sup>(B)</sup>	98 - 102	No	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Zinc (mg/L)	5	N/A	N/D <sup>(B)</sup>	N/D	N/D <sup>(B)</sup>	N/D	No	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (us/cm)	1600	N/A	386 <sup>(B)</sup>	375 - 425	1,040 <sup>(B)</sup>	1,030 - 1,060	No	Substances that form ions in water
Sulfate (mg/L)	500	N/A	35 <sup>(B)</sup>	18 - 39	257 <sup>(B)</sup>	252 - 261	No	Runoff or leaching of natural deposits
Iron (ug/L)	300	N/A	90 <sup>(B)</sup>	0 - 300	N/D <sup>(B)</sup>	N/D	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Manganese (ug/L)	50	N/A	20 <sup>(B)</sup>	N/D - 3.0	N/D <sup>(B)</sup>	N/D	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1000	N/A	236 <sup>(B)</sup>	200 - 300	660 <sup>(B)</sup>	654 - 665	No	Runoff or leaching of natural deposits

A) High Fluoride in local surface water is blended with groundwater to reduce Fluoride below the MCL. MCL compliance is determined by measuring Fluoride every week at a representative location within the distribution system. B) Parameter is regulated by a secondary standard to maintain aesthetic qualities (taste, odor, color).

<b>Unregulated Parameters Requiring Monitoring</b>								
Sodium (mg/L)	N/A	N/A	17	14 - 19	100	97 - 102	No	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Hardness (mg/L)	N/A	N/A	173	170 - 230	300	296 - 304	No	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Perchlorate (ug/L)	6	0	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	No	Industrial waste discharge
Alkalinity (mg/L)	N/A	N/A	153	120 - 165	126	123 - 129	N/A	
Chromium VI	N/A	0.02	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	No	Industrial waste discharge

Turbidity - combined filter effluent	Treatment Technique	Turbidity Measurement	Turbidity Measurement	TT Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant
Highest Single Measurement	5.0 NTU	2.9 NTU	ND	No	Soil run-off
Percentage less than 0.5 NTU	95 %	100 %	100 %	No	Soil run-off

<b>Disinfection By-Products</b>								
Parameter	MCL	Average Amount	Range of Detection	Average Amount	Range of Detection	MCL Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L)	80	N/A	N/A	28	23 - 30	No	Byproducts of drinking water chlorination	
Haloacetic Acids (five)(ug/L)	60	N/A	N/A	10	7.8 - 13	No	Byproducts of drinking water chlorination	
Haloacetic Acids (five) system (ug/L)	60	1.3	1.0-16	17	1.7 - 20	No	Byproducts of drinking water chlorination	
Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	4	2.3	1.4 - 2.7	2.4	1.1 - 3.0	No		

The Information Collection Rule (ICR) is a multi-year national program administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The primary purpose of the ICR is to gather nationwide occurrence data on chemicals which may be formed during drinking water disinfection. The results of the ICR will assist the EPA in regulating many of these disinfection-by-products over the next few years.

## Groundwater Quality Data

Parameter	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detection	MCL Violation	Most Recent Sample Date	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Organic Chemicals</b>							
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (ug/L)	5	(0)	2.2	0 - 5	No	2015	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops
MTBE (ug/L)	13	13	N/D	N/D	No	2015	Gasoline discharge from watercraft engines
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>							
Nitrate (as NO3) (mg/L)	45	45	19	15 - 30	No	2015	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate +Nitrite (mg/L as N)	10	N/A	3.8	3.5 - 6.5	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ug/L)	10	N/A	N/D	N/D	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/L)	2	1	0.54	0.40 - 0.75	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Aluminum (ug/L)	1000	(50)	N/D	N/D	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Secondary Standards*</b>							
Chloride (mg/L)	500*	N/A	30	19 - 40	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Specific Conductance (us/cm)	1600*	N/A	550	490 - 610	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (mg/L)	500*	N/A	40	20 - 73	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1000*	N/A	325	310 - 410	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits

\* Parameter is regulated by a secondary standard to maintain aesthetic qualities (taste, odor, color).

<b>Unregulated Parameters Requiring Monitoring</b>							
Parameter	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detection	MCL Violation	Most Recent Sample Date	Typical Source of Contaminant
Perchlorate (ug/L)	6	6	N/D	N/D	No	2015	Industrial waste discharge
Sodium (mg/L)	Not Regulated	N/A	33	0 - 40	N/A	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness (mg/L)	Not Regulated	N/A	235	180 - 250	N/A	2014	Erosion of natural deposits
Boron (ug/L)	Not Regulated	N/A	150	120 - 200	N/A	2014	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Vanadium (ug/L)	Not Regulated	N/A	3.9	0 - 10	N/A	2014	Naturally occurring / Industrial waste discharge
Chromium VI (ug/L)	Not Regulated	0.02	0.65	0 - 5	N/A	2014	Industrial waste discharge

Parameter	Primary MCL	Average Amount	Range of Detection	MCL Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as NO3) (mg/L)	45	20	5 - 20	No	Fertilizers, septic tanks
Fluoride (mg/L)*	2	0.65*	0.5 - 2.0	No	Naturally present in groundwater
Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L)	80	9.83	0 - 30	No	Byproducts of chlorine disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (five) (ug/L)	60	1.39	0 - 20	No	Byproducts of chlorine disinfection
Parameter	Secondary MCL	Average Amount	Range of Detection	MCL Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Color (color units)	15	3	0 - 7.5	No	Naturally present in groundwater
Odor (Threshold odor number)	3	1	N/D - 2	No	Naturally present in groundwater

### Lead and Copper Action Level at Residential Taps

Parameter	MCL	AL	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Sites Exceeding MCL , Number of Sites	MCL Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (mg/L)	N/A	1.3	0.22	0 / 20	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

Every three years, 20 residences are tested for lead and copper at-the-tap. The most recent set of samples were collected in 2013. Next collection is scheduled for June 2016. Lead was not detected; copper was detected in twelve samples, none of which exceeded the Regulatory Action Level.

Parameter	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detection	MCL Violation	Most Recent Sample Date	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Radiological</b>							
Alpha Radiation (pCi/L)	15	(0)	12.78	4.0 - 15.7	No	2015	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	(5)	8.42	1.4 - 14.5	No	2015	Erosion of natural deposits

### ***What are some contaminants in my source water?***

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### ***Additional information on drinking water contaminants***

**Nitrate** - Found in groundwater through agricultural runoff and a by-product of leaking septic systems. Specifically, a naturally occurring chemical that is left after the break down or decomposition of animal or human waste. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age as well as pregnant women, and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies.

**Perchlorate** - Occurs both naturally and through manufacturing. A component found in rocket fuel and can be found in airbags, fireworks, and Chilean fertilizers. Both RCLWA and Metropolitan Water District had no detection of Perchlorate in 2015.

**Chloramines** - Chlorine has been safely used for more than 100 years for disinfection of drinking water to protect public health from diseases, which are caused by bacteria, viruses, and other disease causing organisms. Chloramine, the monochloramine form in particular, also has been used as a disinfectant since the 1930's. Chloramines are produced by combining Chlorine with Ammonia. While obviously toxic at high levels, neither poses any health concerns to humans at the levels used for drinking water disinfection. Chloramines are weaker disinfectants than Chlorine, but are more stable, thus extending disinfectant benefits throughout a water utility's distribution system. Chloramines are used for maintaining a disinfectant residual in the distribution system so that disinfected drinking water is kept safe.

**Turbidity** - Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness or haziness of water caused by individual particles (suspended solids) that are generally invisible to the naked eye, thus being much like smoke in air. Turbidity is generally caused by phytoplankton. Measurement of turbidity is a key test of water quality.

**Total Trihalomethanes** - Trihalomethanes (THM) are a group of four chemicals that are formed along with other disinfection byproducts when Chlorine or other disinfectants used to control microbial contaminants in drinking water react with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter in water. The amount of total THM's allowed in drinking water is regulated by the USEPA. THM's are measured at two locations within our system. USEPA has set the total THM Running Annual Average safe limit at 80ug/L for drinking water.

**Haloacetic Acids** - Haloacetic acids (HAA5) are a group of five chemicals that are formed along with other disinfection byproducts when Chlorine or other disinfectants used to control microbial contaminants in drinking water react with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter in water. The amount of total HAA5's allowed in drinking water is regulated by the USEPA. HAA5's are measured at two locations within our system. USEPA has set the total HAA5 Running Annual Average safe limit at 60ug/L for drinking water.

**Color** - When water is not circulated regularly it can pick up color from galvanized or copper pipes causing your water to turn yellow or brown. A rusty water heater can also be a problem. To remove colored water from household pipes, run faucet for at least five minutes or until the water clears. Catch this water in a pitcher for watering plants or other non-potable purposes. RCLWA has a flushing maintenance program to remove sediment from the distribution system.

**Fluoride** - Fluoride is a naturally occurring mineral found both in surface water (water from snowmelt, rivers, and streams) as well as groundwater. Fluoride has been added to U.S. drinking water supplies since 1945. While the MCL for Fluoride is set nationally at 4.0 mg/L, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has set the California MCL at 2.0mg/L. Compliance is achieved by blending canyon water with pumped groundwater or imported MWD water which, is lower in Fluoride, always reduces the Fluoride concentration below the SWRCB MCL. Tests for Fluoride are conducted every week at a representative location within the distribution system.

**Chromium VI** - Chromium VI is a heavy metal that occurs throughout the environment and has been known to cause cancer when inhaled and has also been linked to cancer when ingested. Much of the low level Chromium VI found in drinking water is naturally occurring, reflecting its presence in geological formations throughout the state. However, there are areas of contamination in California from historic industrial use such as the manufacturing of textile dyes, wood preservation, leather tanning, and anti-corrosion coatings.

### **Abbreviations and definitions**

**MCL** - Maximum Contaminant Level - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCL's are set as close to the PHG's or MCLG's as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCL's (SMCL) are set to protect the aesthetic qualities (color, taste, and odor) of drinking water.

**MCLG** - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there are no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

**PHG** - Public Health Goal – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there are no known or expected risk to health. PHG's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

**MRDL** - Maximum Residual Disinfection Level - The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

**MRDLG** - Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal – The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

**NL** - Notification Level - Non-regulatory, health-based advisory levels established by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for contaminants in drinking water for which an MCL has not been established.

**N/A** - Not applicable

**N/D** - Not detected

**PDWS** - Primary Drinking Water Standard – MCL's and MRDL's for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**AL** - Regulatory Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**TT** - Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.



### **Rubio Cañon Land and Water Association**

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