

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

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

### **New State of California's Hexavalent Chromium Drinking Water Standard**

The State of California passed a new maximum contaminant level (MCL) for hexavalent chromium. On July 1, 2014 a new California MCL of 0.010 mg/L (10 parts per billion (ppb)) for hexavalent chromium became effective. In accordance with state regulations, the City started quarterly monitoring of all wells for hexavalent chromium by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Water sample results received over the last four (4) quarters showed hexavalent chromium levels of <0.0002 – 0.024 mg/L (<0.2 – 24.0 ppb). Some of these results exceed the State's new MCL of 0.010 mg/L (10 ppb).

At the same time, the hexavalent chromium level in our groundwater supply currently continues to meet the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) MCL for total chromium, which includes hexavalent chromium, at 0.1 mg/L (100 ppb).

The State of California passed SB 385 on September 4, 2015 which requires water systems to prepare a Corrective Action Plan and grants a period of time to achieve compliance with the new State MCL. The State requires compliance by January 1, 2020. The City of Vacaville's Corrective Action Plan was submitted on October 30, 2015 and is currently being reviewed by the State Division of Drinking Water.

Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what the City is doing to address hexavalent chromium and meet the new State MCL.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants in our water supplies sources, and in the treated drinking water distributed to our customers. We will continue to monitor for the level of hexavalent chromium and provide you with regular notices, at least twice a year.

#### **What happened?**

The City of Vacaville gets its drinking water from two surface water sources (Lake Berryessa through the Putah South Canal and the Sacramento Delta through the Northbay Aqueduct), and from eleven (11) deep groundwater wells. All sources provide water into the City's combined distribution system when they are in operation. Of these sources, water from five of the eleven deep wells naturally contain hexavalent chromium above the new California MCL. Prior to the State lowering the MCL from 0.050 mg/L to 0.010 mg/L in 2014, the City of Vacaville met all drinking water standards.

## What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternate water supply (e.g., bottled water).**
- This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, *some people who drink water containing hexavalent chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*
- If you have other health issues or concerns regarding your consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

## What is being done?

The City of Vacaville is taking steps to provide water with hexavalent chromium at or below the MCL. However, adding hexavalent chromium treatment to the wells will take considerable time and money. As previously mentioned, we have a plan for achieving full compliance with the new MCL before the January 1, 2020 deadline.

Future notices will provide updated information on actions being taken in accordance with the compliance plan. Updated information can also be found on the City's Website at: <http://www.cityofvacaville.com/index.aspx?page=810>

If you have any questions, please contact Tony Pirondini, Water Quality Manager at 707-469-6439, or email him at [tony.pirondini@cityofvacaville.com](mailto:tony.pirondini@cityofvacaville.com), or call the Utilities Department main line at 707-469-6400.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This letter is delivered to you from City of Vacaville Public Water System.

State Water System ID#: 48-10008

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