

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.

Indian Wells Valley Water District Has Levels of Arsenic Above the Drinking Water Standard

Our Water District recently exceeded a drinking water standard. This is NOT an emergency but as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation. This notification is a requirement of the California Department of Public Health.

We routinely monitor our water supply for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Based on the results of samples collected from February 2011, (1st Quarter 2011) to December 2011, (4th Quarter 2011) the drinking water produced by Well 9A contained an average of 20.2 µg/L (parts per billion) of arsenic and the drinking water produced by Well 13 contained an average of 10.9 µg/L of arsenic. Wells 9A and 13 produce water that is above the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), set by the State of California Department of Public Health of 10.0 µg/L. New treatment facilities have been reducing the amount of arsenic in the water from Wells 11 and 13 since June 2011 and from Wells 9A/10 since August 2011. Therefore, the District is not currently serving raw water to our customers above the MCL. We are still in violation of the arsenic MCL since arsenic MCL compliance is based on the running annual average value.

What should I do?

- **You do NOT need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).**
- **This is NOT an emergency.** If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, *some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Construction has been completed on two treatment facilities to reduce the level of arsenic in the water from these wells. No raw water is being served from any of these wells at this time.

You will continue to receive a notice similar to this approximately every three months until the quarterly running annual average for each well is below 10.5 µg/L.

For more information, please contact Renée Morquecho, Ph.D., P.E., Chief Engineer, at (760) 375-5086 or the California Department of Public Health at (661) 335-7315.

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 notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notification of all water users is being performed in compliance with law and regulations of the California State Department of Public Health to keep you, the affected public, fully informed.

Date: 01/23/12

Signed: 
Renée E. Morquecho, Ph.D., P.E.
Chief Engineer