



# CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

120 Toma Court • Post Office Box 608 • San Andreas, CA 95249 • Main Line (209) 754-3543

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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

Este Informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien quo lo entiende bien.

### **Disinfection By-Products Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Exceedance for Disinfection By-Products (DBPs) in the Ebbetts Pass Distribution System**

DBPs are formed in the water system when chlorine used in the disinfection process reacts with naturally occurring total organic carbon (TOC – formed by the decomposition of plant matter). TOC is difficult to remove by filtration at the water treatment plant and chlorine is a powerful disinfectant that provides a measurable disinfectant residual. By law, CCWD is required to have a measurable chlorine residual at all times throughout the water system. DBPs are regulated by the State in parts per billion. It is suspected that prolonged exposure to large volumes of DBPs over a long period of time can cause cancer. As a result, the State has placed Maximum Contaminant Level requirements on two families of DBPs. These are Total Tri-halomethanes (TTHMs – 80 parts per billion) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA's – 60 parts per billion).

The Calaveras County Water District is required to take quarterly DBP monitoring samples from multiple sites throughout the Ebbetts Pass Service Area (add # of Sites). For each location, CCWD is required to maintain a running annual average of the sample results. CCWD cannot exceed the MCL for either constituent at any sample site.

In the fourth quarter of 2020 CCWD exceeded the Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for HAA's at one sample site within the Ebbetts Pass System. The MCL is 60 parts per billion and the District's LRAA exceedance was 61 parts per billion.

The Ebbetts Pass water system recently failed a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, 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 one sample result MCL exceedance is not representative of the water quality for the entire water system.

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who use water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many, many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous 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.

CCWD does not take this MCL exceedance lightly and is working diligently to restore the water supply at this sample site to within an acceptable DBP range. CCWD is preparing to replace multiple redwood tanks within the service area and re-route tank piping in an effort to improve water quality and reduce water age. District Staff are also assessing the viability of adding pre-treatment at the Hunters Water Treatment Plant to improve TOC removal. CCWD will continue to work to implement as many solutions as possible to improve water age and water quality overall.

*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).*

### **Secondary Notification Requirements -**

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- SCHOOLS: Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

Should you wish to discuss this compliance order in detail, please email me, [damonw@ccwd.org](mailto:damonw@ccwd.org), or call 209-754-3306 at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Damon Wyckoff, Director of Operations