

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.

Big Creek CSD has levels of Haloacetic Acids above Drinking Water Standards

NOTE: This notice does not pertain to the SCE Domestic Water System.

Our water system is failing 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.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Compliance with the haloacetic acids (HAA5) maximum contaminant level (MCL) is based on the average concentration of four consecutive quarterly samples (or an annual average) unless fewer samples would cause the running annual average (RAA) to be exceeded. The standard for HAA5 is 60 micrograms per liter (ug/L). Test results for a sample taken on 03/23/15 shows that our system exceeds the RAA MCL for HAA5. The average level of HAA5 over the last year was 75.8 ug/L.

Note: The test result for the sample taken on 03/24/15 was 55 ug/L and did not exceed the MCL.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g. bottled).**
- This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, *some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years (studies estimate 60-70 years) 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 was done?

Based on studies we have done and other information we believe that this problem is related to our redwood tank. We are planning to replace it. We anticipate resolving the problem within 1 to 1-1/2 years.

For more information, please contact Big Creek CSD at (559)893-3361 or at the following mailing address: PO Box 178, Big Creek, CA 93605.

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.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by the Big Creek Community Services District.

Big Creek Community Services District Annual Drinking Water Quality Report - 2014

Posted from 04/11/2015 to 05/11/2015

System # 1000005

The Big Creek Community Services District is pleased to present to you the 2014 Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to be aware of the efforts we make to continually provide good, clean, safe water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of our water. Our water source is surface water from Huntington Lake via Big Creek #1 Penstock. This water is processed through the SCE water treatment plant and delivered to our 60,000-gallon redwood storage tank.

Treatment

The SCE Big Creek #1 Domestic Water Plant routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Their testing is performed by BSK Labs, an independent, certified laboratory. The BCCSD does not test raw water since we purchase treated water. However, we do tests for chlorine residual daily, and for certain contaminants as required by the California Public Health Department. The results of these tests for BCCSD and SCE for the period 01-01-14 thru 12-31-14 are shown in the following tables.

In these tables you will find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level- The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Public Health Goal or 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.

Note: All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. **It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.** More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

TABLE 1 BCCSD TEST RESULTS FOR DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	Unit Measurement	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	ND		N/A	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	N/A (0)	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform and <i>E.coli</i>	N	ND		N/A	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	N/A (0)	Human and animal waste

TABLE 2 BCCSD TEST RESULTS FOR DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead And Copper	Violation Y/N	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	MCL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppm)	N	Next required test: summer of 2016		0	.015	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	N	Next required test: summer of 2016		0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

Note: These samples were tested on 09/07/12

TABLE 3 BCCSD DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Violation Y/N	Sample Interval	Level Detected	Range of Detection	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant and Health Effects
HAA5 (ppb)	Y	Quarterly	Annual Average: 74.0	48 - 130	MCL 60 ppb		Byproduct of drinking water disinfection. Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
TTHM (ppb)	N	Quarterly	Annual Average: 53.3	36 - 63	MCL 80 ppb		Byproduct of drinking water disinfection. Some people who drink water containing Trichloromethane in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Chlorine (ppm)	N	Daily	Daily Average: .61	.4 - 1.0	[MRDL] 4.0 as residual chlorine	[MRDLG] 4.0 as residual chlorine	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment. Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

We are currently exceeding the MCL for HAA5. This does not present an immediate health risk. You do not need to use an alternative (e.g. , bottled) water supply (see Table 3). The BCCSD is in the process of replacing its redwood storage tank with a steel tank in an effort to correct this situation.

TABLE 4 SCE DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	Unit Measurement	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Likely Source of Contamination and Health Effects
Turbidity	N	0.198*	.020 -.198	NTU	TT**	1.0 (N/A)	Soil runoff. Turbidity has no health effects. However, high levels of turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.
Alpha Activity, Gross	N	ND		pCi/L	15	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

* This is the highest single measurement for the year taken at the SCE water treatment plant. Turbidity is logged every 4 hours continuously.

** The treatment technique used by SCE to remove turbidity is multiple stage filtration.

Additional Information

Lead and copper are an issue in some homes. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home’s plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home water you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).”

Please call me if you have questions: Calvin Yarbrough at (559)893-3320.

The Big Creek Community Services District desires to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, conserve water whenever possible, and use water responsibly.

BCCSD
Calvin Yarbrough