

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Big Plains Water SSD – Cedar Point: UTAH27089 Has Levels of Combined Radium, Gross Alpha Particles, Turbidity and Manganese Above Drinking Water Standards

What happened?

Our water system is in violation of drinking water standards. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Recent testing results show that our system exceeds the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for the following contaminants:

- Combined Radium
- Gross Alpha Particle Activity
- Turbidity
- Manganese

The sample results, collection dates and the contaminant MCLs are given in the table below:

Water Quality Result Summary Table				
Water Source	Parameter	Sample Date	Result	Maximum Contaminant Level
Jessup Well	Combined Radium (Units in pCi/L)	5/31/2023	7.3	5
		10/26/2023	6.7	
		2/8/2024	7.1	
	Turbidity (Units in NTU)	Febuary Average	12	5
3/28/2024		11.2		
New Cooke Well	Combined Radium (Units in pCi/L)	8/24/2023	7.3	5
		10/26/2023	7.3	
		2/8/2024	7.3	
	Turbidity (Units in NTU)	Febuary Average	7	5
Well 59	Combined Radium (Units in pCi/L)	5/12/2022	17.9	5
		8/24/2023	7.53	
		10/26/2023	9.8	
	Gross Alpha Particle Activity (Units in pCi/L)	10/26/2023	37.1	15
		5/12/2022	38.3	
	Manganese (Units in mg/L)	5/12/2022	0.46	The EPA Health Advisory Limit for Manganese is 0.3 mg/L.
10/26/2023		0.42		

During the summer months there is more demand on the water system due to irrigation. For this reason, it is necessary to turn on a third well, known as Well 59. This well contains levels of Alpha Particles and Combined Radium above their MCLs of 15pCi/L (picocuries per liter) and 5 pCi/L. Additionally it also contains levels of Manganese above the EPAs health advisory level of 0.3 mg/L. This well will be in service during the summer months.

What should I as a consumer do?

Based on the manganese levels and guidance from EPA, we suggest that customers do the following:

- Do not use your tap water to prepare bottles or food (e.g. soup) for **infants under six months, the elderly or those with liver disease.** Tap water may be used to prepare foods, such as pasta, where the water is discarded prior to consumption.
- Do not boil water you intend to drink. Boiling, freezing, or letting water stand does not reduce manganese levels. Boiling can increase levels of manganese because manganese remains behind (i.e., is concentrated) when the water evaporates.
- Contact your doctor. If you have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult with a medical professional.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However please read the following potential health impacts.

- **Radium**
 - Radium is a naturally occurring radioactive element, and its presence in drinking water can present a significant risk to public health.
 - Long-term exposure to radium is associated with an increased risk of cancer, particularly bone cancer. The radiation emitted by radium can damage cells and their DNA, potentially leading to the development of cancerous cells. Therefore, regulatory standards are in place to limit radium levels in drinking water and protect public health. Regular monitoring and appropriate water treatment are essential to minimize exposure and ensure the safety of the drinking water supply.
- **Alpha Particles**
 - 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.
- **Turbidity**
 - Turbidity has no health effects. However, 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.

What is being done?

On February 29, 2024, the Drinking Water Board authorized a construction loan of \$3,370,000 with \$3,370,000 in principal forgiveness to Big Plains Water Special Service District for the construction of a 4.5-mile transmission line to connect Apple Valley Water System with the Cedar Point Water System. Once this project is complete, we hope to turn off the wells which currently exceed drinking water standards and bring in water from the neighboring water system.

The transmission line project is progressing, with regular meetings held with engineers,

contractors, and the Washington County Water Conservancy District. The main challenges faced are the Environmental Impact Study and Buy America requirements, which have caused budget overruns. Efforts are being made to reduce costs and mitigate these issues. The environmental impact study could potentially delay the project by up to two months, but efforts are being made to minimize this delay. Easement agreements are mostly in place, with one expected to be signed soon. The Town Engineer is managing the environmental impact study, which is required before groundbreaking can occur. The project is currently aiming for completion by the end of September 2024, but this timeline is subject to the completion of the environmental impact study.

We are continually collecting samples for the contaminants of concern and will continue to notify you of sample results as they become available.

For more information, please contact Michael "Mike" Farrar at 435-877-1190 or 1777 N Meadowlark Dr, Apple Valley, UT, 84737.

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 notice is being sent to you by Big Plains Water SSD – Cedar Point: UTAH27089.
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