Mandatory Language for a Maximum Contaminant Level Violation - TTHM

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the Sunset Bay public water system that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for total trihalomethanes (TTHM) to be 0.080 milligrams per liter (mg/L) based on a locational running annual average (LRAA), and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for total trihalomethanes indicates a compliance value in the 4th Quarter of 2023 of 0.130 mg/L for sample point DBP2-01 - DS - A (133 Rockside Dr.).

Trihalomethanes are a group of volatile organic compounds that are formed when chlorine, added to the water during the treatment process for disinfection, reacts with naturally-occurring organic matter in the water.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidney, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

You do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

We are taking the following actions to address this issue:

We are performing system upgrades and operational improvements to reduce the formation of total trihalomethanes (TTHM). These include the installation of automatic flushing valves at the dead ends of the distribution system, and optimization of the flushing program to purge stagnant water more frequently and to reduce water age, which can help decrease TTHM levels. Additionally, we are evaluating the use of alternative disinfectants that are less likely to result in the formation of TTHMs.

Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., 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.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact Christina Akly at 561-691-7065.

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