



## 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.

### Tests showed Coliform Bacteria Levels Failed to Achieve the Drinking Water Standard in Camp Pendleton's South Water System

During March 2016, our South Water System failed to meet a drinking water standard. The South Water System provides water to the 43 Area and all other Camp Pendleton areas south of Las Pulgas Road. **This incident is not an emergency.** However, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor drinking water quality. During March, we took 68 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria. Six of these samples, or 8.8% of those taken, showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The drinking water standard is that no more than 5.0% of samples per month may do so.

In addition to not meeting the standard for total coliform, the South Water System also failed to meet the monitoring and reporting requirements of the California Groundwater Rule in response to these total coliform detections. Specifically, we collected only eight of twelve required water quality samples from three drinking water wells within 24 hours of detecting total coliform bacteria in the water distribution system. Although subsequent bacteriological analyses performed at these wells achieved drinking water standards, State regulations require us to notify you within one year of this non-compliant monitoring and reporting event. This notice achieves this mandatory notification requirement.

#### What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.**
- **Your water is safe.** If there had been an emergency, you would have been notified immediately. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.*
- Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be an issue with the system's treatment or distribution system (pipes). Therefore, whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find any of these harmful bacteria in our follow-up testing.**

- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

### **What happened? What was done?**

Upon learning of the exceedance, staff immediately isolated and flushed the water lines in the affected areas, increased disinfectant levels, and resampled for total coliform and other bacteria until the problem was corrected. The problem has been corrected, as subsequent laboratory tests were negative for total coliform and other bacteria. We will continue to monitor water quality closely and implement further action should the situation require.

For more information, please contact Allen Hollander at (760) 725-3567 or Water Resource Division, P.O. Box 555009 MCB Camp Pendleton, CA 92055.

*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 public 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 Camp Pendleton Southern Water System.

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