

Important Notice to Pine Valley Mutual Water customers

Update on Water Quality Monitoring and Actions Regarding Uranium and Gross Alpha Contaminants

Dear Pine Valley Mutual Water Company Customers,

We are committed to keeping you informed about the quality and safety of your drinking water. As part of our ongoing efforts to ensure transparency and maintain the highest standards for water quality, we are writing to notify you about recent developments related to the presence of uranium and gross alpha contaminants in our water system. **Don't be alarmed, there is currently no concern regarding any health risks associated with consuming or using the water provided by PVMWC.**

Background and Routine Water Monitoring

Pine Valley Mutual Water Company (PVMWC) regularly samples our water for a range of potential contaminants, in accordance with state and federal regulations. This routine monitoring is a key part of our responsibility to protect the health of the 2,645 people we serve through 721 service connections.

On July 31, 2024, results from our scheduled sampling of Well 10 indicated that the levels of uranium in the water were 20.3 picocuries per liter (pCi/L), and gross alpha was measured at 20 pCi/L. These values exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) allowed for these substances, The mcl for uranium is 20 (pCi/l) and the mcl for gross alpha is 15 (pCi/l) allowed in public drinking water systems.

Compliance Actions and Enhanced Monitoring

When the MCL is exceeded at a specific source, regulations require increased monitoring to ensure public safety and to help guide corrective actions. As a result of the findings in Well 10, PVMWC initiated quarterly sampling to establish an annual running average (RAA) for uranium and gross alpha contaminants. This increased monitoring officially went into effect on October 4, 2024.

We have now completed this round of quarterly monitoring. The resulting annual running average for uranium and gross alpha in Well 10 is 24.4 pCi/L, which remains above the regulatory limit set for these contaminants.

Proposed Long-Term Solutions

After thorough analysis and consultation with experts, PVMWC has identified three possible solutions to address the exceedance in Well 10 and ensure the ongoing safety of our water supply:

- **Identifying Water-Producing Fractures:** We are currently working on an approach that involves locating and isolating the specific fracture within Well 10 that is responsible for the elevated levels of uranium and gross alpha contaminants. By doing so, we can prevent water from this fracture from entering the supply, thereby reducing contaminant levels.
- **Continued Blending of Wells:** Our current strategy of blending Well 10 with Well 1 has demonstrated effectiveness in lowering contaminant concentrations. We may continue this practice as a long-term solution, pending further analysis and regulatory approval.
- **Drilling a Dedicated Blending Well:** Another option under consideration is the drilling of an additional well, which would be used exclusively for the purpose of blending with Well 10. This would allow us greater flexibility and control over the composition of our water supply, ensuring compliance with all quality standards.

Ongoing Monitoring and Next Steps

Until a permanent solution is identified and implemented, PVMWC will continue to monitor the water supply on a monthly basis. This ongoing vigilance ensures that any changes in contaminant levels are detected and addressed quickly.

We anticipate reaching an official resolution to this matter within the next year. As soon as a final solution is chosen and implemented, we will notify all customers through a letter and additional updates.

Health and Safety Information

Your health and safety remain our highest priorities. There is currently no concern regarding any health risks associated with consuming or using the water provided by PVMWC. Had there been a risk to your health, you would have been notified immediately with clear

instructions. All available evidence, including consultation with health and regulatory authorities, supports the continued safe use of our water for drinking, cooking, bathing, and other household purposes.

We understand that news of regulatory exceedances can cause concern, and we want to reassure you that PVMWC is taking every step necessary to resolve the issue promptly and thoroughly. We encourage you to reach out to us with any questions or for more information.

Secondary Notification Requirements

- Schools must notify employees, students, and parents about water quality monitoring and remediation updates.
- Residential rental property owners are required to inform tenants of the situation and any changes.
- Business property owners must keep their employees updated on water safety efforts.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like more details about the ongoing water quality monitoring and remediation efforts, please do not hesitate to contact:

- Jeremy Fitzpatrick
- Phone: 619-473-8450
- Email: pvmh2o@hotmail.com

Commitment to the Community

PVMWC is dedicated to maintaining the trust and confidence of our customers. We will continue to provide regular updates, work closely with regulatory authorities, and take every possible action to ensure that our water remains safe and reliable for all.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued support of Pine Valley Mutual Water Company.

Sincerely,

Pine Valley Mutual Water Company

