

Phelan Piñon Hills Community Services District

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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.

Phelan Piñon Hills Community Service's District Water has Levels of Hexavalent Chromium Above the Drinking Water Standard

Pursuant to a California regulation adopted July 1, 2014, the level of a substance called hexavalent chromium (Chromium-6) should not exceed 10 parts per billion (0.010 mg/l) in drinking water provided by a public water system. This number is known as the maximum contaminant level or MCL. Senate Bill 385, which became law effective September 4, 2015, allows public water systems, with sources that produce water with a hexavalent chromium concentration above the MCL, time to come into compliance. So long as a public water system complies with the new law (Health & Safety Code, section 116431), it will not be deemed in violation of the MCL. In addition to other requirements, the new law requires the water system to come into compliance at the earliest feasible date prior to January 1, 2020.

Based on continuous monitoring for hexavalent chromium, and as of the date of this notice, the level of hexavalent chromium in the water provided by our water system is determined to be between 10 - 18 parts per billion, which is above the MCL.

Although this is not an emergency, as our customer, 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. We will continue to monitor for the level of hexavalent chromium and provide you with regular notices, at least twice a year.

What should I do?

- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing hexavalent chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- If you have other health issues or concerns regarding your consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.
- If you wish to avoid drinking the water provided by our water system, you may wish to use alternative water for drinking and cooking.

Alternative Drinking Water

The Phelan Piñon Hills Community Services District has identified various locations for alternative drinking water. This information is available on our website at www.pphcsd.org or by calling (760) 868-1212. From time-to-time, this information will be updated to provide you with the most accurate and recent information possible.

What happened? What is being done?

We are taking steps to provide water with hexavalent chromium at or below the MCL. We have a plan for achieving compliance with the MCL. We submitted our proposed compliance plan to the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water. The plan requires us to achieve compliance no later than 2020, which we believe is the earliest feasible date considering the complexity of the plan and the amount of funding required.

The approved compliance plan contains the following actions that the District will be taking, including a milestone schedule. This notice will be updated twice each year.

Funding for the Chromium-6 Mitigation Project will primarily come from low interest loans with the source of repayment approved as part of the District's new rate schedule. In order to try and reduce costs, the District will also try to obtain grants, including Proposition 1A funds.

The District's Chromium-6 Mitigation Project plan was submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water in December 2015. The feasibility study was completed on December 8, 2015. The Preliminary Engineering Report and Contract for Grant/Funding Assistance was awarded on July 6, 2016. The environmental impact study (CEQA) was completed in August 2016. Project design is estimated to be completed in August 2017. Funding is estimated to be secured in early 2017. Land acquisition, if needed, and construction contracting are estimated to be completed in mid-2017. Construction is estimated to begin in February 2018 and completed by June 2019.

The District is continuing to monitor Chromium-6 levels in all wells in compliance with the requirements of the State of California.

For more information, please contact the District at (760) 868-1212 or P.O. Box 294049 Phelan, CA 92329.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by the Phelan Piñon Hills Community Services District.

State Water System ID No.: 36010120 Date Distributed: March 1, 2017.