



CITY OF CALEXICO

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OF CALEXICO WATER TREATMENT PLANT ANNOUNCES EXCEEDANCE OF DRINKING WATER STANDARD

CALEXICO, CA – The City of Calexico Water Treatment Plant’s water system recently exceeded drinking water standards for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs). While we are required to notify residents and customers of any exceedance of standards, the Water Treatment Plant wants to confirm with the public that this detection is neither harmful nor a reoccurring issue.

The Water Treatment Plant monitors drinking water for specific parameters on a regular basis. The locational running annual average (LRAA) for TTHMs is determined by averaging all the quarterly samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. The LRAA standard for TTHMs is 80 ug/L. During the 2nd and 3rd quarter of 2019, the TTHM results increased due to a number of factors and ranged from 63 ug/L to 120 ug/L. The City of Calexico Water Treatment Plant is currently evaluating the feasibility of implementing several treatment options in order to meet TTHM standard. The City is working closely with the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water to resolve the issue. We anticipate resolving the issue within 12 months.

This is not an emergency and our customers do not need to boil water or take other actions. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water have established public notification rules and tiers under which specific violations are assigned. This TTHM violation is a Tier 2 violation of the drinking water regulations. Tier 2 violations are considered less urgent than Tier 1 violations because there is little immediate risk to consumers. Tier 2 violations require a public notification delivered to customers after a violation is discovered.

TTHMs are common disinfection process byproducts that form when chlorine reacts with natural organic material present in the source water. Although an increase of TTHMs was detected, the water remains safe to drink and use for cooking, bathing and cleaning.

For more information, please contact Jose L. Saldana, Water System Supervisor at (760)768-2160 or at the following mailing address: 549 Pierce Ave, Calexico, California.

Viva Calexico!