

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Timberon W&SD Does Not Meet Treatment Requirements

*Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.*

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We are required to maintain UV inactivation of pathogens entering the distribution system. Our disinfection requirement has not been met for the month(s) of: September 2024.

### **What does this mean?**

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

Complete inactivation of pathogens in your water is important in ensuring safe water to all our customers. This is required in addition to adding chlorine to the water. *\*Chlorine is added to the water to inactivate bacteria that may be present. Lack of adequate disinfectant may cause the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.\** These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

Tests during this time did not indicate the presence of bacteria in the drinking water system during this period.

### **What should I do?**

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. We do not know of any contamination, and none of our testing has shown disease-causing organisms in the drinking water.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### **What is being done?**

Timberon W&SD water operators investigated this violation and found that it resulted from lack of training. UV Disinfection was disabled and went unnoticed for a period of time. This constitutes a violation of 20.7.10.100 NMAC [incorporating 40 CFR Section 141.72(b), 40 CFR 141.73 and 40 CFR 141.720(d)(3)]. To ensure this mistake does not happen in the future, Timberon W&SD water operators will closely monitor UV Disinfection and ensure its continuous operation.

### **For more information, please contact:**

Jessica Roberts at 575-987-2250  
Timberon W&SD, NM3546419  
PO Box 40  
Timberon, NM 88350

*\*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 notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**

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Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water samples for August 2024 showed that a higher than usual number of turbidity measurements were over 0.3 turbidity units. The standard is that no more than 5 percent of samples may exceed 0.3 turbidity units (NTU) per month. The turbidity levels are relatively low. However, their persistence is a concern. Normal turbidity levels at our surface water treatment facility are below 0.3 turbidity units.

We routinely monitor Turbidity from the filtered water. During the month of August 2024 less than 95% of the measurements were below 0.3 NTU. This is a violation of the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

### **What does this mean?**

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

*\*Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.\** These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

### **What should I do?**

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. We do not know of any contamination, and none of our testing has shown disease-causing organisms in the drinking water.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### **What is being done?**

Timberon W&SD water operators investigated this violation and found that it was due to clerical error. Multiple turbidity readings of 0.070 were reported as having been 0.700. This constitutes a violation of 40 CFR Section 141.551(a)(1). To ensure this mistake does not happen in the future, Timberon W&SD water operators will verify all reported turbidity readings for accuracy and submit these readings to a Level 4 water operator for review.

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Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We are required to submit turbidity data and chlorine levels to the State on a monthly basis. This requirement has not been met for the month(s) of: September 2024.

### **What does this mean?**

This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified immediately.

Monitoring and reporting turbidity and chlorine levels in your water are important in ensuring safe water for all our customers. *\*Chlorine is added to the water to inactivate bacteria that may be present. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. \* These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.*

Tests during this time did not indicate the presence of bacteria in the drinking water system during this period.

### **What should I do?**

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- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### **What is being done?**

Timberon W&SD water operators investigated this violation and found that it was due to clerical error. Multiple turbidity and chlorine readings were not included in the monthly operations report. This constitutes a violation of 20.7.10.100 NMAC [incorporating 40 CFR Section 141.75(b) and 40 CFR 141.570]. To ensure this mistake does not happen in the future, Timberon W&SD water operators will verify all operations reports for accuracy and submit these reports to a Level 4 water operator for review.

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