

2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

CITY OF LINDSAY

*We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations.
This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2015.*

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber.
Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

We are pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the domestic drinking water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source comes from surface water via the Friant Kern Canal and three groundwater wells, Well Nos. 11, 14 and 15, although Well No. 11 was not in service during 2015. As the State of California drought conditions continue to worsen, the reliance on groundwater (wells) has increased. Well 14 and Well 15 have been used more during times of limited access to Friant delivered water. Well 14 continues to test high for DBCP. We have submitted an SRF application to State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (DDW) for funding to correct the DBCP concentration or for the replacement of Well 14. The entire supply for the months of January, February, November and December were provided by well water. Chlorination is provided on each well. Surface water treatment is conventional filtration with chlorination.

A source water assessment was conducted for the water supply wells of the City of Lindsay water system in May, 2002. The City uses groundwater as a source of supply to augment the surface water supply during the summer months of high demand and to meet system needs during those winter months when the Friant-Kern Canal is shut down for maintenance and repair. City groundwater sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: fertilizer; pesticide and/or herbicide applications; and landfills and/or dumps. The groundwater sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: wells (agricultural/irrigation); and waste lagoons (liquid wastes). A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at the City offices. If you would like a summary of the assessment sent to you or if you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Mike Camarena, City Services Director, at (559) 562-7104, ext. 4.

We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers located at 251 E. Honolulu in Lindsay.

The following are definitions of some of the TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs or MRDLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor or appearance of drinking water. Supplies with elevated SDWS do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variances and Exemptions: State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (DDW) permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

NA: not applicable.

ND: not detectable at testing limit.

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l).

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/l).

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/l).

pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation).

In general, sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) may include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Constituents that may be present in source water to contamination levels include:

- Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (DDW) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (DDW) regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. City of Lindsay is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The Table below lists all the drinking water constituents that were detected during the most recent samplings for the constituent. The presence of these constituents in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (DDW) requires us to monitor for certain constituents less than once per year because the concentrations of these constituents are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are therefore more than one year old.

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING TREATMENT OF SURFACE WATER SOURCES				
Treatment Technique	Turbidity Performance Standards (TPS)	Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met TPS	Number of Months in Violation	Highest single turbidity measurement during the year
Conventional Filtration Treatment with Chlorination	Turbidity of the filtered water must: Be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month.	100%	0	0.27
<i>Turbidity (measured in NTU) is a measurement of the cloudiness of water and is an indicator of filtration performance. Turbidity results which meet performance standards are considered to be in compliance with filtration requirements.</i>				

TEST RESULTS (A)						
Lead and Copper Rule	No. of samples collected	MCLG	Action Level	90 th percentile level detected	No. Sites Exceeding Action Level	Typical Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb) 2015	31	2	15	ND	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 2015	31	0.3	1.3	0.18	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS (B)						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	MCL	PHG [MCLG]	Sample Date	Weighted Average Level Detected (C)	Range (B)	Likely Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha Activity (pCi/L)	15	N/A	2010, 2011 & 2013	4	ND to 5.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)			2004, 2005 & 2009	0.7	0.4 to 1	Erosion of natural deposits

SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	MCL	PHG [MCLG]	Sample Date	Weighted Average Level Detected (C)	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
Hardness (ppm)	None	None	2014 & 2015	377	23 to 700	Generally found in ground and surface water
Sodium (ppm)	None	None	2014 & 2015	131.3	5.1 to 230	Generally found in ground and surface water

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	MCL	PHG [MCLG]	Sample Date	Weighted Average Level Detected (C)	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	2014 & 2015	2	ND to 3.1(D)	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	1	2	2014 & 2015	0.22	ND to 0.46	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A <u>PRIMARY</u> DRINKING WATER STANDARD (continued)						
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	2014 & 2015	0.26	ND to 0.5	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as N (ppm)	10	10	2015	3.5	ND to 6.1 (E)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS INCLUDING PESTICIDES & HERBICIDES (B)						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	MCL	PHG [MCLG]	Sample Date	Weighted Average Level Detected (C)	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP) (ppt)	200	1.7	2015	60	ND to 230 (F)	Banned nematocide that may still be present in soils due to runoff/leaching from former use on soybeans, cotton, vineyards, tomatoes, and tree fruit

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A <u>SECONDARY</u> DRINKING WATER STANDARD					
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	MCL	Sample Date	Weighted Average Level Detected (C)	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloride (ppm)	500	2014 & 2015	392.6	3.6 to 790 (G)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Units)	15	2014 & 2015	10	< 5 to 20 (G)	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Foaming Agents (MBAS) (ppb)	500	2014 & 2015	< 50	N/A	Municipal and industrial waste discharges
Iron (ppb)	300	2014 & 2015	157	ND to 200	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	50	2014 & 2015	20	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor (Units)	3	2014 & 2015	1.2	ND to 1.5	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (μ S/cm)	1600	2014 & 2015	1,400	72 to 2600 (G)	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	500	2014 & 2015	26.5	1.4 to 43	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	1000	2015	1016 (G)	46 to 2000 (G)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts and Disinfectant Residuals

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Sample Date	Running Annual Average	Range	Major Sources in Drinking Water
<i>TTHM</i> [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	N/A	2015	65.8	12.8 to 158 (H)	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
<i>HAA5</i> [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	60	N/A	2015	47.2	7.7 to 100.5 (I)	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine as Cl ₂ (ppm)	[4.0]	[4]	2015	0.88	0.20 to 2.40	Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose or stomach discomfort

Disinfection Byproduct Precursors

Control of DBP precursors (TOC)	MCL	MCLG	Range	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Source Water	TT	N/A	1.9 to 3.6	Various natural and manmade sources
Treated Water	TT	N/A	1.6 to 2.2	Various natural and manmade sources

- (A) Results reported due to regulatory requirement or detection of a constituent.
- (B) Results reported include amounts that are less than the State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (DDW) required detection level for this constituent.
- (C) The weighted average reflects the quantity of water provided from each source of supply, be it groundwater (wells) and/or surface water along with the representative concentration for a particular constituent.
- (D) ABOUT ARSENIC: While your drinking water meets the current EPA standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The California State Department of Public Health continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

- (E) **ABOUT NITRATE:** In all previous years, nitrates were reported as NO3 which has an MCL of 45. This year's report is reporting Nitrates as N. Nitrates reported (as N) with an MCL of 10 is equivalent to an MCL of 45 for NO3. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L (as N) is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels as N that are above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.
- (F) **ABOUT DBCP:** Some people who use water containing DBCP in excess of the MCL over many years may experience reproductive difficulties and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (DDW) has waived Friant Kern Canal from DBCP testing. The last sample in 1993 was ND.
- (G) **ABOUT SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS:** Chloride, color, Specific Conductance and Total Dissolved Solids were found at levels exceeding the Secondary MCLs. These MCLs are set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic affects such as color, taste, odor or appearance of drinking water. The elevated levels are typically due to naturally occurring organic materials.
- (H) **ABOUT TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHMs):** Some people who drink water containing Total Trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (I) **ABOUT HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5s):** Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic Acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Additional General Information On Drinking Water

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. The presence of constituents does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about constituents, contaminant levels and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1/800/426-4791 or their website <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts.html>.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders and some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1/800/426-4791.

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