

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Socorro Had Levels of Arsenic Above Drinking Water Standards

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

Arsenic in our water is from natural deposits. The City of Socorro built two arsenic treatment plants with a cost of over 4.5 million dollars. These arsenic treatment plants have kept the levels of arsenic under the maximum contaminant level since put into operation.

Our water system violated a drinking water standard in 2013 due to a reversal of a decision that was made by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) in 2014. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received show that our system was below the maximum contaminant level (MCL) on quarterly sampling for arsenic. The standard for arsenic is 0.010 mg/L. The average level of arsenic in samples taken during 1st, 2nd and 3rd Quarters in 2013 is listed in the below tables. The tables below show the dates, locations, and values detected:

Sample Location	Sample Date	Quarter & Year	Result mg/L	RAA mg/L *
Springs Treatment Unit	3/14/2013	1 st qtr - 2013	0.004	0.033
	6/20/2013	2 nd qtr - 2013	0.005	0.024
	8/15/2013	3 rd qtr - 2013	0.005	0.014

Sample Location	Sample Date	Quarter & Year	Result mg/L	RAA mg/L *
Industrial Park Unit	3/14/2013	1 st qtr - 2013	0.003	0.019
	6/20/2013	2 nd qtr - 2013	0.003	0.014

* Indicates Running Annual Average – includes samples **before** installation of arsenic treatment and after installation of arsenic treatment plants. These averages were not in compliance with the MCL for arsenic RAA.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- 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.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. However, some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What is being done?

The City of Socorro Arsenic Treatment Plants have been in operation since November 2012. All quarterly samples taken in 2013 & 2014 have been under the MCL but the running annual average (RAA) was still above the MCL. NMED issued a letter to the City of Socorro stating they are meeting the MCL standard for arsenic. If anyone is interested in a copy of this letter from NMED, it will be available at the City of Socorro Water Utilities, 302 Main Street, Socorro, NM 87801.

For more information, please contact:

Jordan Lloyd Martinez at 575-838-1606 Or Socorro Water System, #237-28
PO Box K
Socorro, NM 87801

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.