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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Continuation of the Tetrachloroethylene Maximum Contaminant Limit (MCL) at Allendale Water Department

The Allendale Water Department has a treatment process to remove tetrachloroethylene from the drinking water at the New Street Treatment Plant. On a quarterly basis, SUEZ collects and analyzes water samples at the New Street Treatment Plant for tetrachloroethylene, a type of volatile organic compound. Compliance with the tetrachloroethylene MCL is based on a quarterly, running annual average which was calculated at 1.54 part per billion (ppb) for the compliance samples collected from 4/4/2019 through 1/10/2020, which exceeds the running annual average tetrachloroethylene MCL level of 1 ppb.

As our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what SUEZ is continuing to do to correct this situation.

What happened?

During two sampling events, 7/10/2019 and 10/9/2019, individual samples had elevated levels, meaning our treatment system failed to consistently remove tetrachloroethylene from the drinking water. Allendale's water system utilizes diffused aeration (i.e. blowers) to inject air bubbles into water tanks to remove VOCs. During operation at the New Street Treatment Plant, the connections inside the treatment device opened, which led to the failure of the unit and the MCL violation. **This treatment equipment has been repaired and prior to putting the treatment system back on line, a special purpose sample was collected on 11/25/2019 at the treatment system and was non detect for tetrachloroethylene. A required compliance sample collected on 1/10/2020 for tetrachloroethylene was also non-detect, demonstrating the effectiveness of the remedial measures taken to date.**

Since compliance is based on a running annual average, Allendale Water Department continues to exceed the MCL based on the previous elevated sample results and anticipates exceeding the running annual average through the 2nd calendar quarter of 2020.

Allendale Water Department previously notified you of the initial Treatment Technique Violation and tetrachloroethylene MCL Violation on 12/02/2019. This letter is a required update of the Notice you received last fall.

What does this mean?

Tetrachloroethylene, also known as tetrachloroethene, perchloroethylene, perchlor, PCE, and perc, is a chemical manufactured for use in the dry cleaning, metal degreasing and aerospace industry, and is an environmental pollutant. It is a colorless, nonflammable liquid that easily evaporates from water to air with multiple routes of exposure, including direct ingestion of contaminated water and inhalation during bathing.

Some people who drink water containing tetrachloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their liver, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.



What should you do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. Tetrachloroethylene can be detected in the body through blood and urine tests, however, it is eliminated from the body very quickly.

What is being done?

SUEZ has completed the following corrective actions:

- The treatment equipment used to remove tetrachloroethylene (i.e. air difusers) was inspected, disassembled, cleaned, and repaired on 11/14/2019.
- Special purpose sampling was conducted at the New Street Treatment Plant on 11/25/2019 to ensure the effectiveness of the repairs to the treatment equipment.
- Additionally on 11/25/2019, SUEZ installed a safety catch so the connections do not open inside the air diffusers.

SUEZ will continue the following corrective actions:

- Install new instrumentation in the air diffusers at the New Street Treatment Plant to monitor pressure through the diffuser in real-time. This is due to be completed by 4/1/2020.
- Increase the frequency of cleaning/inspection of the air diffusers from annual to semiannual.

For more information, please contact the SUEZ Customer Service Center at 1-855-367-6708 or email us at sueznjcustserv@suez-na.com.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by SUEZ Allendale Operations.

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