

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.  
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### City of Banning Has Levels of Hexavalent Chromium Above the Drinking Water Standard

Pursuant to a California regulation adopted July 1, 2014, the level of a substance called hexavalent chromium should not exceed 0.010 mg/l in drinking water provided by a public water system. This number is known as the maximum contaminant level or MCL. Senate Bill 385, which became law effective September 4, 2015, allows public water systems, with sources that produce water with a hexavalent chromium concentration above the MCL, time to come into compliance. So long as a public water system complies with the new law (Health & Safety Code, section 116431), it will not be deemed in violation of the MCL. In addition to other requirements, the new law requires the water system to come into compliance at the earliest feasible date prior to January 1, 2020.

After 48 months of monitoring for hexavalent chromium, and as of the date of this notice, the level of hexavalent chromium in the water provided by our water system is determined to be 0.0 to 0.016 mg/L Running Annual Average (RAA) based on quarterly monitoring which is above the MCL.

Although this is not an emergency, as our customer, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We will continue to monitor for the level of hexavalent chromium and provide you with regular notices, at least twice a year.

#### What should I do?

- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, *some people who drink water containing hexavalent chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may be susceptible to adverse health effects.*
- If you have other health issues or concerns regarding your consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.
- If you wish to avoid drinking the water provided by our water system, you may wish to use alternative water for drinking and cooking.

#### Alternative Drinking Water

Water can be purchased at various locations such as retail establishments (i.e. grocery and convenience stores). Specific information on hexavalent chromium levels in bottled

water can be obtained from the bottled water company's website or the Food and Drug Administration.

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

The City fully intends to take steps to provide water with hexavalent chromium at or below the MCL. However, to achieve that it will take time and money. The City has a plan for achieving compliance with the MCL. On August 31, 2015 City staff submitted a proposed compliance plan to the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water for its review and approval. The compliance plan was approved April 4, 2016 and requires us to achieve compliance no later than January 1, 2020. With the approval of the compliance plan the City is currently not reported as having a hexavalent chromium violation.

The approved compliance plan contains the following milestones that the City of Banning will be completing:

1. Treatment and Compliance Study: The City has hired a firm to evaluate several treatment and blending options for meeting the new hexavalent chromium standard. The study also included preparation of capital and operation and maintenance cost estimates. Percent complete = 100%.
2. Financing Plan: Capital, Operating and Maintenance costs will be funded by: rate increases, grants and loans. A rate study has been started, but not yet completed. City staff has also commenced the preparation of grant applications. Percent complete = 15%.
3. Environmental and PS&E: This phase is planned to take place during September, 2016 to January, 2018. Percent complete = 0%.
4. Construction: This phase is planned to take place during January, 2018 to January, 2020. Percent complete = 0%.

The milestones above will be updated and provided to our customers twice a year.

For more information, please contact Perry Gerdes at 951-922-3181 or P.O. Box 998 Banning, CA 92220.

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

This notice is being sent to you by City of Banning Public Works Department

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