



## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

### **The City of Imperial Has Levels of Disinfection By-Products Above New Drinking Water Standards**

Our water system recently violated a new drinking water standard. 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. We monitored the water for disinfection by-products throughout 2008 and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2009, and the average of the testing results show that our system exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes (TTHM). The current standard for TTHM is 80 parts per billion (ppb). The average level of TTHM over the last year was 82.45 ppb.

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

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled water supply); however, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

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

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) sets drinking water standards and requires the disinfection of drinking water. However, when used in the treatment of drinking water, disinfectants react with naturally-occurring organic and inorganic matter present in water to form disinfection by-products (DBPs). CDPH has determined that a number of DBPs are a health concern at certain levels of exposure. Certain DBPs, including some trihalomethanes (THMs) and some haloacetic acids (HAAs), have been shown to cause cancer in laboratory animals. Other DBPs have been shown to affect the liver and the nervous system and cause reproductive or developmental effects in laboratory animals. Exposure to certain DBPs may produce similar effects in people. CDPH has set standards to limit exposure to THMs, HAAs, and other DBPs.

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

The City of Imperial Water Treatment Plant will be evaluating the feasibility of implementing several treatment options in order to meet the TTHM standard. The City of Imperial Water Treatment Plant shall be working closely with the California Department of Public Health to resolve the problem as soon as is feasibly possible.

For more information, please contact Jackie Loper at (760) 355-3336.

*Please share this information with all 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 the City of Imperial Water Treatment Plant. State Water System ID# 1310006. Date Distributed: **November 3, 2009**