

San Simeon Community Services District Water Service

Did Not Meet Treatment Requirement (Turbidity)

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively
filtering the water supply. In the month of February 2024, the 95th percentile NTU of all turbidity
readings was 0.394, which exceeds the standard of 0.3 NTU. The standard is that no more than 5
percent of samples may exceed 0.3 NTU turbidity units per month. The turbidity levels are relatively
low. However, their persistence is a concern. Normal turbidity levels at our plant are less than 0.1 NTU
turbidity units.

What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other actions.
- This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified immediately. We do not know of any contamination, and none of our testing has shown disease-causing organisms in the drinking water.
- Turbidity has no health effects. However, high levels of turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of the water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What was done?

A problem occurred with the treatment system at the water plant due to the high volume of rain experienced in February. We have taken Corrective Action:

- We continued to sample both untreated and treated water for the presence of coliform bacteria. No coliform bacteria was detected in the treated water.
- We continued to monitor chlorine residuals to ensure that disinfection continued to occur

For questions or more information, please contact the San Simeon Community Services District office at 805-927-4778