**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

Este aviso contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable, por favor lea el aviso en español si va aquí incluido. Si el aviso en español no va incluido aquí, contacte al sistema de agua para pedir una copia.

## DRINKING WATER WARNING

[System Name] water has high levels of chlorite

PREGNANT WOMEN AND YOUNG CHILDREN

SHOULD NOT DRINK THE WATER

Sampling results received on [date] showed chlorite levels of [level and units]. This is above the primary drinking water standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 1.0 milligrams per liter. Chlorine dioxide is used for disinfection and can produce chlorite as a disinfection byproduct.

**What should I do?**

* **DO NOT USE THIS WATER IF YOU ARE PREGNANT OR GIVE IT TO YOUNG CHILDREN.** *Some infants and young children who drink water containing chlorite in excess of the MCL could experience nervous system effects. Similar effects may occur in fetuses of pregnant women who drink water containing chlorite in excess of the MCL. Some people may experience anemia.*
* *The chlorite violations reported today include exceedances of the MCL within the distribution system that delivers water to consumers. These concentrations of chlorite may harm human health based on short-term exposures. Certain groups, including fetuses, infants, and young children, may be especially susceptible to nervous system effects from excessive chlorite exposure.*
* Water, juice, and formula for young children and for pregnant women should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water should be used until further notice. Because the potential health effects of chlorite are based on tests on laboratory animals, there is no way to determine at exactly what age for young children the water is safe to drink. You may want to err on the side of caution.
* Adults who are not pregnant can drink the tap water because their nervous systems are already developed. If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of the water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Chlorine dioxide is used in small amounts every day to kill bacteria and other organisms that may be in your drinking water. Chlorite is a disinfection byproduct from the use of chlorine dioxide. [Describe corrective action and when you expect to return to compliance].

For more information, please contact [name of contact] at [phone number] or [mailing address].

*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.*

**Secondary Notification Requirements**

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

* SCHOOLS: Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
* RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
* BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by [system name].

State Water System ID#:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Date distributed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.