
State Water Resources Control Board

UPDATED Drinking Water Advisory For Del Oro Water Company customers affected by the Camp Fire

Based on water sampling conducted at Del Oro Water Company and adjacent Paradise Irrigation District as a result of the Camp Fire, it is necessary to update the [Jan. 11, 2019](#), advisory from the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (Division), for Del Oro Water Company consumers. This updated advisory applies to the following affected Del Oro Water Company districts: Lime Saddle, Paradise Pines, and Magalia.

The [Division's Jan. 11 advisory](#) suggested that odor could be a determining factor if benzene was present at levels above the state's standard. The un-natural odor alone is no longer sufficient for safely screening the water. As the sources of the contaminants are better understood and further testing is defining the scope and breadth of the issue, the Division is now relying on laboratory results to determine the safety of the water.

The most recent testing of standing homes and the water main lines in all three Del Oro Water Company districts has yielded no detectable benzene. Benzene is the most simple form of all aromatic compounds found in nature. It is considered a volatile organic compound (VOC), meaning it will eventually evaporate from water. In all testing since the Camp Fire, whenever a VOC has been detected above its drinking water standard – benzene has always been above its drinking water standard as well. That means benzene has been an effective indicator of VOC contamination. If benzene is not present, results indicate that no other VOC will be above its drinking water standard. Benzene appears to be a building block for the other VOCs found in the testing.

Testing of water lines to burned homes has not yet been conducted, but is planned for the near future to determine the status of these water lines. More testing at standing homes is also planned.

Testing to date has not revealed an ongoing occurrence of organic chemical contamination within Del Oro Water Company's three districts. These test results are available on the Del Oro Water Company district websites. <http://bit.ly/2SGC5oJ> If further testing indicates otherwise, this message will be modified accordingly. You will be notified immediately of any test results at your standing structure. **For 24-hour customer support or emergency, call 1-877-335-6764.**