

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Cimarron Water System Does Not Meet Treatment Requirements

***Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.***

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water samples for May, 2023 showed that 3 turbidity measurements of 94 were over 0.3 turbidity units within 15 minutes readings. The standard is that no more than 5 percent of samples may exceed 0.3 turbidity units (NTU) per month. The turbidity levels are relatively low. However, their persistence is a concern. Normal turbidity levels at our surface water treatment facility are .3 units.

We routinely monitor for Turbidity from the filtered water. During the month of May 2023 less than 95% of the measurements were below 0.3 NTU. This is a violation of the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

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

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. We do not know of any contamination, and none of our testing has shown disease-causing organisms in the drinking water.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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

This is not an emergency . If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. *\*Turbidity has no health effects. However, 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 which 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.

**What is being done?** The turbidity is being monitored to ensure the levels are within state regulation. Only water that is within regulation is being sent to the water distribution system for the residents.

### **For more information, please contact:**

Shawn Jeffrey at 575-376-2232  
Cimarron Water System, NM3526204  
P.O. Box 654  
Cimarron, NM 87714

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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### Monthly Total Organic Carbon Removal Requirements Not Being Met by the Cimarron Water System

Our water system recently violated a drinking water regulation. 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 monitor monthly for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal and maintain a running annual average (RAA) of the results. During the third and fourth quarters of 2022 and the first quarter of 2023 the RAA for TOC removal was less than required.

#### What does this mean?

This ongoing TOC violation is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified immediately.

Total organic carbon has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products. These by-products include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these by-products in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

#### What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, please contact your health care professional.

#### What is being done?

We are working with NMED and NMRWA to improve water treatment. We have a new treatment plant designed to reduce TOC.

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We anticipate resolving the TOC problem with the new water plant.

For more information, please contact:

Shawn Jeffrey: 575-376-2232 or [villageadmin@villageofcimarron.net](mailto:villageadmin@villageofcimarron.net)

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