IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Fountain Valley Authority
Does/Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) purchases water from the Fountain Valley Authority (FVA). You are receiving this notice because you may receive a blend of both CSU and FVA water. The FVA system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this was 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.

FVA routinely monitors its water for total organic carbon (TOC). Results from FVA’s source water and finished water tells FVA whether they are effectively controlling disinfection byproduct precursors. To demonstrate control of disinfection byproduct precursors the FVA system elected to use the total organic carbon (TOC) alternative compliance criteria. Under this option, the system is required to show that the amount of TOC in its treated water is less than 2.0 milligrams per liter (mg/L) calculated quarterly as a running annual average. The FVA’s first quarter of 2016 results showed that the TOC running annual average was 2.05 mg/L.

What does this mean? What should I do?

✓ This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been informed immediately.

✓ You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.

✓ Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts 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 any increased risk of getting cancer. If you have any health concerns, consult your doctor.

✓ Colorado Springs Utilities monitors THMs and HAAs in the distribution system on a quarterly basis and the results are below the MCL drinking water standards.

What happened? What is being done?

TOC increases in source water during periods of heavy rain fall and snow melt due to runoff entering our reservoirs and creeks. TOC generally increases annually during spring runoff and summer seasons when organic matter is carried from streams feeding into reservoirs. During 2014 and through 2015, we have experienced higher overall precipitation as well as some high intensity events, leading to increased transport of organic material into Pueblo Reservoir resulting in higher TOC levels. Pueblo Reservoir is the source of the water for the FVA water treatment plant. Currently, the FVA is conducting extensive research on ways to further reduce TOC in the water both entering and leaving the treatment plant. We expect to return to compliance within third quarter of 2016. For more information, please contact us at (719)-448-4800.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by: Colorado Springs Utilities
Colorado Public Water System ID#: CO1021300 Date distributed: April 18, 2016