



NEWS

**GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY
933 EAST COURT STREET, SEGUIN, TEXAS 78155**

Luling Water Plant switches to use of chloramines in treatment process

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Contact: Judy Gardner or Tammy Beutnagel, [830] 379-5822, email jgardner@gbra.org
or tbeutnagel@gbra.org

SEGUIN- On August 2, 2004 the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) Luling Water Treatment Plant changed the disinfectant used in its treated drinking water process from chlorine to a combination of chlorine and ammonia, called chloramines.

“This change will allow us to provide water that will meet the new, more stringent standards being issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA),” said GBRA Luling Water Treatment Plant manager Joe Downey. “It will benefit the citizens of Luling by reducing the levels of disinfection byproducts (DBP’s) in the drinking water supply, while continuing to provide protection from waterborne diseases.”

According to Downey, chloramines are more stable and provide disinfection for a longer period of time in the water distribution system.

For several reasons, the change to chloramines requires public notice. Public notification was provided in the Luling *Newsboy* on July 15 and July 22, as required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Persons dependent on dialysis machines must ensure that chloramines, like chlorine, are removed from the water used for the dialysate with a medically approved pre-treatment device. Chloramines may require more frequent maintenance of the carbon filters on dialysis machines. Patients using home dialysis machines should feel free to contact GBRA at 830-875-2132 or the City of Luling at 830-875-2481 if they have any questions.

Like chlorine, chloraminated water may also be toxic to fish and other types of aquatic life and must be removed from water used for fresh and saltwater aquariums. A water-conditioning agent or an activated carbon filter specifically designed to remove chloramines must be used according to product instructions.