



Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY OF PUBLIC NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

Public Water System (PWS) name: GBRA CALHOUN COUNTY RURAL WATER SYSTEM
PWS ID (7-digit number required): 0290007
Type violation: TTHM MCL, LRAA
Time Period of violation: fourth quarter of 2014

The PWS named above has distributed the Public Notice (PN) for the type of violation and time period listed above by:

Mail or direct delivery, to bill-paying customers as required by 30 TAC §290.122(b)(2)(A) for community water systems; and

The information contained in this public notification is correct and complies with required public notification content in accordance with 30 TAC §290.122

and; Make an adequate good-faith effort to reach non-bill-paying consumers by appropriate methods (check all below that apply):

- Posting the PN on the internet at www.gbra.org/public
Mailing the PN to postal patrons within the service area that do not receive a bill
Advertising the PN in news media
Publication of PN in local newspaper
Posting the PN in public places
Delivery of multiple copies to single bill addresses serving several persons
Delivery to community organizations
Email notification

Date of Delivery to Customers 2/26/2015

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Certified by: Name (print): HERBERT R. WITTLIFF Title: PORT LAVACA OPERATIONS MANAGER
Phone: 361-552-9751 Email: gbrap1@gbra.org
Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date Signed: 3/10/2015

Mail a copy of this completed form and a copy of the Public Notice that was delivered to your customers to:

TCEQ - Drinking Water Inventory & Enforcement Team
Attn: Public Notice (MC-155)
P. O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Valued Water Customer,

February 2, 2015

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the **GBRA CALHOUN COUNTY RURAL WATER SYSTEM** that the drinking water being supplied to its customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for total trihalomethanes at 0.080 milligrams per liter (mg/L) based on locational running annual average (LRAA), and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water sampling sites in your community for total trihalomethanes indicates a compliance value in quarter four 2014 of 0.086 mg/L for DBP2-02.

Trihalomethanes are a group of volatile organic compounds that are formed when chlorine, added to the water during the treatment process for disinfection, reacts with naturally-occurring organic matter in the water.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidney, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

You do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

We are taking the following actions to address this issue:

Biofilms build up naturally and over time in the pipe walls of all drinking water systems with a surface water source, and they are known to harbor bacteria and pathogens. Therefore, we annually utilize over an approximate 30 day period in late summer, an alternate method of disinfection by switching from monochloramines to free chlorine to control biofilm in our water distribution system. During the 30 day alternate disinfection period, the level of trihalomethanes in the water temporarily elevates to above 0.080 mg/L. Shortly thereafter when the water system reverts back to monochloramines, the trihalomethanes level drops back to below 0.080 mg/L, which is the norm for most of the year. Therefore, the annual average limit for trihalomethanes is not typically exceeded, since the limit is based on locational annual average test results. Although TCEQ's contract sampler collected drinking water samples from the distribution system after the alternate disinfection period of September 2014, residual trihalomethanes in excess of the allowable amount appear to have persisted longer than expected. These samples, which when analyzed in the lab exceeded the limit of 0.080 mg/L, were then used as the representative sample results for the entire quarter (90 days), as opposed to the approximate 30 day period (of temporarily elevated trihalomethanes) which these samples actually represent. The inclusion of this temporarily elevated figure in the "running" annual average of four quarters created a mathematical violation of the MCL for trihalomethanes.

To prevent a reoccurrence of this anomaly, the GBRA Calhoun County Rural Water System will work closely with TCEQ to assure that quarterly drinking water samples are truly representative of the typical superior quality of water delivered throughout that quarter and the year. Also, GBRA will be incorporating an established process at the water treatment plant to reduce the precursors that are known to form trihalomethanes.

Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e. 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.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact GBRA at (361) 552-9751.