



Montebello Land & Water Company

344 E MADISON AVE/ PO. BOX

279 MONTEBELLO, CA 90640

DENNIS P. BURKE
President

BRUCE JUGAN
Vice President

NORMAN AKASHI
Secretary

ZEKI KAYIRAN
Treasurer

DAVID R. REGO
Director

KOREY BRADBURY
General Manager

Telephone
(323) 722-8654

Fax
(323) 722-5529

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RE: Notification of detection of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Water System
Montebello Land & Water Company (MLWC) holds delivering safe and reliable water to its customers as its top priority. In connection with its priority to ensure that the water it provides is safe, and pursuant to instructions from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW), MLWC has been testing the water it pumps from the underground aquifer for the presence of a group of human-made chemicals (they do not occur naturally) called Perfluorooctanoic acid (“PFOA”) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (“PFOS”), which are among a larger group of chemicals referred to as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

PFAS are a group of over 4,000 human-made chemicals used in industry and consumer products worldwide since at least the 1940s. They do not break down easily and are widespread in the environment. These chemicals are used to make household and commercial products that resist heat and chemical reactions and repel oil, stains, grease, and water. Some everyday products that may contain PFAS include non-stick cookware, water-resistant clothing and materials, cleaning products, cosmetics, food packaging materials, and some personal care products. In the 2000s, manufacturers began voluntarily phasing out PFAS from products, and they are no longer produced in the United States; however, they are still made in and imported from other countries. California law requires **notification to MLWC’s customers** when the water it provides contains in excess of 40 parts per trillion for PFOS. For PFOA, notification is required if the level is over 10 parts per trillion. *Parts per trillion* is a **microscopic** measurement. For perspective, 10 to 40 parts per trillion is comparable to a few grains of sand in an Olympic-size swimming pool filled with beach sand. The presence of PFAS in drinking water sources is not unique to Montebello. PFAS is currently being detected in groundwater throughout Southern California and the United States.

We tested the water from our wells, and the results indicate that PFAS compounds in excess of the level requiring notification are present in all of our wells. Below are the test results.

PFOA (ng/L) (Parts per trillion)	
Well #	3 Quarter Avg.
7	15.00
8	11.33
9	11.00
10	13.67
11	10.67
12	12.33
14	0.00

PFOS Results (ng/L) (Parts per trillion)	
Well #	3 Quarter Avg.
7	43.00
8	41.67
9	39.67
10	40.00
11	43.00
12	42.67
14	40.33

Although more research is needed, scientific studies indicate that exposure to PFAS can lead to significant adverse health effects, especially in pregnant women or women likely to become pregnant and in children. Studies also show that PFAS may affect growth, learning and behavior of babies and older children, affect the immune system, increase cholesterol levels, and increase cancer risk.

The water-resistant properties of PFAS make it challenging to remove from water; however, there are proven treatment options. We are taking the following SWRB recommended measures to remove the chemicals from the water:

- MLWC has hired an engineering company to construct a central treatment facility at the MLWC yard where several wells are located and a separate treatment facility near another well to remove PFAS from the groundwater.
- After the engineering company designs the treatment facilities, MLWC will hire a contractor to build them.
- We will continue monitoring for PFAS in the water and will make the test results available to our customers via our website.

Our ultimate goal is water-free of PFAS. In the near term, unfortunately, we are likely to continue encountering traces of PFAS in groundwater for reasons beyond our control. For more information on PFAS, visit these websites:

- Environmental Protection Agency
<https://www.epa.gov/pfas>
- California Water Boards - Division of Drinking Water
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/PFOA_PFOS
- US Food and Drug Administration
<https://www.fda.gov/food/chemicals/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>

We strongly encourage you to share this information with everyone in your household. Please visit our website www.mtblw.com to view the PFAS Frequently Asked Questions document. If you have any questions about this notice, please call Korey Bradbury at (323) 722-8654.

Warmly,

Korey Bradbury