

PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Monitoring Requirements Not Met For Kirtland Air Force Base

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 violated drinking water requirements over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During June 2023 we failed to conduct all required source water monitoring within the designated timeframe, following a Total Coliform-positive sample and, therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should you do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What does this mean?

One requirement of public water systems is the periodic monitoring of tap water for the presence of bacterial contaminants. Whenever our water system has a routine Total Coliform-positive sample, we are required by law to conduct source water monitoring within 24 hours of notification. Following a Total Coliform-positive sample on June 14, 2023, we did not collect all required source water samples within the timeframe designated by the state. Therefore, we cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

What happened? What is being done?

On June 14, 2023, Bioenvironmental Engineering was notified that a bacteriological sample at a routine sampling location tested positive for Total Coliform. As required by the Ground Water Rule, the positive result triggered re-sampling at the same location, as well as upstream and downstream locations, and all six groundwater wells used by Kirtland Air Force Base. Instead, the sampling technician re-sampled most required locations, but neglected to sample one of the ground water wells. Bioenvironmental Engineering learned on June 20, 2023 that sampling at a well had been missed, and the missed well was re-sampled on June 21, 2023. After June 21, 2023, all repeat samples were in compliance, and Kirtland AFB water was safe for consumption.

We received a Notice of Violation from the New Mexico Environmental Department for failure to collect the Triggered Ground Water source samples within 24 hours of notification of a positive result. Our policy on the date of collection and submission was changed to ensure all requirements are met. We have updated notification procedures so the laboratory can contact our office 24/7, thereby ensuring notification is received by Bioenvironmental Engineering and follow-up tests can be scheduled immediately.

For more information, please contact SSgt Sara Neal at 505-846-7974 or 2050A 2nd Street SE, Bldg 47, Albuquerque, NM 87117.

Please share this information with all 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.