



WEST TRAVIS COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITY AGENCY

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wtcpua.org

November 19, 2018

PUBLIC NOTICE MANDATORY LANGUAGE CODING Tier 2 violations/ Non-Acute

Mandatory Language for Surface Water Treatment Technique Violation

SURFACE WATER TREATMENT TECHNIQUE: [NON-ACUTE]

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sets minimum water quality standards for public drinking water. These standards include enforceable treatment technique requirements for drinking water. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

The **West Travis County Public Utility Agency**, PWS ID TX2270235, failed to meet the minimum treatment technique requirements for the month of **October 2018**. Specifically, our water system had **more than 5% of the combined filter effluent turbidity readings above 0.3 NTU for the month**.

in September and October, very high Lake Travis water levels required LCRA to release extraordinary volumes of water into Lake Austin. The releases contained turbidity 80 times the normal that supplies our water treatment plant (WTP). We have never experienced this situation before and had to reduce raw water flow into the WTP to treat the turbidity starting Saturday, October 20, 2018, which also significantly reduced water production capacity.

Subsequently, despite our best efforts we exceeded TCEQ allowable finished water turbidity limits and issued a Boil Water Advisory. After numerous WTP adjustments and daily reduction in Lake Austin raw water turbidity, we were able to meet finished water turbidity requirements starting Friday morning, October 26, 2018. We completed required distribution system sampling and flushing that afternoon, and samples came back negative for bacteria Saturday morning, October 27, 2018. Accordingly, TCEQ gave approval to lift the Boil Water Advisory shortly after noon.

Due to reduced WTP treatment capacity we also issued Stage 4 Emergency Water Conservation Measures on October 24, 2018. Customers were required to eliminate non-essential water uses during this emergency as outlined on the WTCPUA web site. On November 12, 2018 Lake Austin raw water turbidity returned to manageable levels and the WTCPUA water treatment production capacity was determined to meet system demands. Accordingly, the Stage 4 Emergency Water Conservation Measures were lifted and we returned to Stage 1 Voluntary Water Conservation until further notice.

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 questions concerning this matter, you may contact Trey Cantu, Operations Manager, WTCPUA, 13215 Bee Cave Parkway, Building B, Suite 110, Bee Cave, Texas, 78738, tcantu@wtcpua.org, 512-751-6993.