

**Mandatory Language for a Maximum Contaminant Level Violation
MCL, SINGLE SAMPLE/01/NITRATE**

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the **Tahoka Public Water System** that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level for nitrate. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for nitrate at 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L) based on a single sample, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for nitrate indicates a compliance value in quarter three of 2016 of **10.5mg/L** for EP002.

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. If your child is under the age of six months, the child **must** be given an alternative water supply for any consumption. Boiling the affected water is **not** an effective treatment for nitrate removal.

Most consumers 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. At this time, the health effects to fetuses of pregnant women is unclear. If you are pregnant, you may also choose to use an alternative source of water for drinking and cooking purposes.

We are taking the following corrective actions to address this issue:

We are blending our well water with water purchased from the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority. This blending reduces the level of nitrate in the drinking water.

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 a child less than six months of age, you are a nursing mother, or you are pregnant, R.O. water will be furnished to you at no cost until such time as the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality no longer requires it. The R.O. water is available at city hall between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. Please bring your own one (1) gallon containers for the water.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact **Jerry Webster** at **806-561-4211**.

Posted/Delivered on: July 15, 2016