



Red River Authority of Texas

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July 23, 2020

NOTICE OF DRINKING WATER NITRATE VIOLATION RRA – Guthrie-Dumont Water System, ID No. 1350001 Second Quarter 2020

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the Authority's Guthrie-Dumont Water System that the water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for NITRATE. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for NITRATE at 10 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in the Guthrie-Dumont Water System for NITRATE from EP001 indicates a level of **15.0 mg/L**.

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.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT BOILING YOUR WATER WILL NOT REMOVE NITRATE. EXCESSIVE BOILING WILL ACTUALLY INCREASE ITS CONCENTRATION.

The Authority will provide bottled water for use by expectant mothers and infants less than 6 months of age. Unless you are an expectant mother or have an infant under the age of 6 months, 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.

The Authority has proposed the construction of a new water wells located near the town of McAdoo, with the well being developed in the Ogallala Aquifer. The Ogallala Aquifer does not have excessive nitrates and is known to be a proven long term groundwater source. The well water will be transported by gravity flow through a 8" transmission line for approximately 25 miles and terminate at the existing 20,000 gallon storage tank. This water will then be blended with the existing well water from the Dickens Well Field. The total estimated cost for this project is \$3.98 million dollars. However, the bottled water reimbursement program will remain in effect until the nitrates in the drinking water of the Guthrie-Dumont Water System are reduced to below 10 mg/L.

Please share this information with all the 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.

For further information on the bottled water program, please contact the main office or myself at (866) 723-8697. You may also contact your District Manager, Mr. Michael Carlson at (940) 636-8064.

Sincerely,

RED RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald A. Mullins".

Ronald A. Mullins
Utility Supervisor

RAM:slf