



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCV Water's Quarterly Well Sampling Detects PFAS in Wells

Customers' water quality and treatment are top priorities for the agency

SANTA CLARITA, Calif. – SCV Water's recent quarterly well sampling detected perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) in excess of the state's nonregulatory notification levels, in 20 wells. This is in addition to 8 wells identified during the first round of sampling in May. PFOA and PFOS are two chemicals within a class of chemicals known as PFAS.

The State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Drinking Water's (DDW) recently lowered the notification levels and are the most stringent in the nation.

"Like many communities across the nation, we are finding tiny amounts of PFAS in our water supply. We are taking immediate steps to tackle these substances through new strategies and proven treatment options," said General Manager Matt Stone. "Our customers are our top priority, and we are committed to rigorously testing and treating our water thousands of times per year to ensure it meets or surpasses all water-quality standards and is safe to drink for our customers."

In August, the updated state guidelines lowered the notification levels by more than half, to 6.5 parts per trillion for PFOS and 5.1 ppt for PFOA. Under these new levels, more wells fell within notification levels. One well was removed from service in May when it exceeded DDW's interim response level of a combined 70 ppt for PFOS and PFOA. This interim response level is expected to be reviewed by the DDW this fall.

For perspective, one part per trillion is a microscopic measurement for something in the water and would be equal to four grains of sugar in an Olympic-size swimming pool.

Notification levels are a nonregulatory, precautionary reporting level for concentrations in drinking water that warrant notification and further monitoring and assessment. When water registers above the notification level, it is reported to the DDW, as well as the SCV Water governing board, the Santa Clarita City Council, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors within 30 days of official results from the testing laboratory. Results are scheduled to be presented to the SCV Water Board on October 1, and the list of wells could change if further sampling results are received by then. Customers are notified through SCV Water's annual Consumer Confidence (Water Quality) Report as well as the Agency's website and e-newsletter.

"We are committed to transparently communicating all water quality changes and how we plan to address them with our customers," said Stone.

SCV Water continues to monitor its groundwater supplies through proactive quarterly sampling and will rely on its diverse water supply portfolio, including imported and banked water sources, in order to minimize any supply impacts to its customers. Additionally, SCV Water encourages customers to continue to use water efficiently in their homes and on their landscapes.

SCV Water is evaluating treatment options to remove PFAS chemicals and has assembled a team of staff and industry experts to develop a plan to address the issue. A new \$5 million quick-start water treatment facility is in the works for three agency wells next to the William S. Hart Baseball/Softball League ballfields. This project is an investment in the long-term water supply and will provide treatment for a substantial portion of groundwater impacted by PFAS chemicals. The project will treat up to 6250 gallons of water per minute. On average, it will be enough water to serve more than 5,000 families for a year.

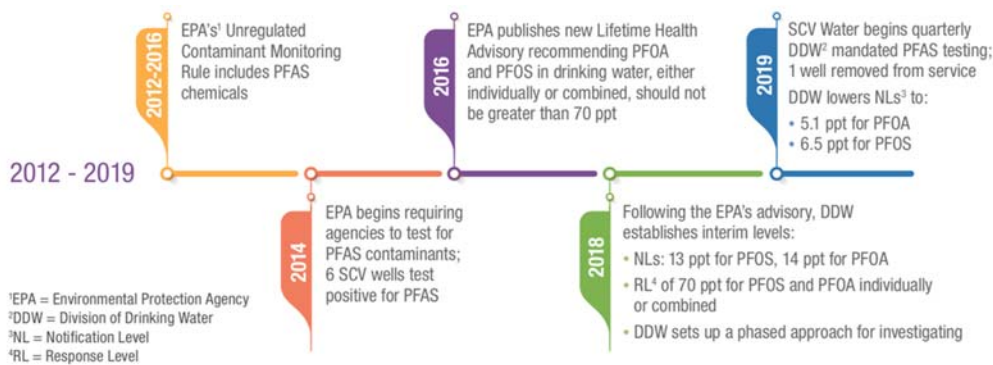
SCV Water is one of more than 200 water systems in California required to sample for PFOS and PFOA chemicals this year.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manmade chemicals that are prevalent in the environment and were commonly used in industrial and consumer products to repel grease, moisture, oil, water and stains. These chemicals enter the environment through treated wastewater discharge, landfills and areas where the substances were used outdoors. Exposure to these chemicals may cause adverse health effects.

For more information and resources on PFAS, visit yourSCVwater.com/pfas.

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History of PFAS Regulatory Levels



About SCV Water:

The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) is a full-service regional water agency located in the Santa Clarita Valley. SCV Water provides water service to approximately 72,000 business and residential customers. It was formed on January 1, 2018, when local water suppliers combined into one integrated, regional water provider. More information can be found at www.yourSCVwater.com

For more information, please contact:

Kathie Martin
Public Information Officer
SCV Water
kmartin@scvwa.org
661-513-1265