



December 23, 2020

John Moreno, City Manager
City of Paramount
16400 Colorado Avenue
Paramount, CA 90723

RE: Notification of PFOS & PFOA Detection in Drinking Water

Dear Mr. Moreno,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that recent tests have detected the presence of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) in the groundwater extracted by one of Golden State Water Company's wells that supply the Hollydale water system.

The Hollydale system provides drinking water to portions of the South Gate and Paramount communities. During normal operation, the system is supplied by groundwater pumped from GSWC's local wells. The system also has three emergency inter-connections with the cities of Downey, Paramount and South Gate, which are only utilized during times when supplemental water supply may be required.

Testing required by the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) detected levels at Golden State Water's McKinley Well 3 that exceeded the state's established Notification Levels of 5.1 and 6.5 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS, respectively, although below the Response Levels of 10 ppt for PFOA and 40 ppt for PFOS.

The PFOA results are as follows:

Well Name	Sample Date	Results (ppt)	Sample Date	Results (ppt)	Average (ppt)
McKinley Well 3	11/18/2020	6.9	12/2/2020	7.0	7.0

The PFOS results are as follows:

Well Name	Sample Date	Results (ppt)	Sample Date	Results (ppt)	Average (ppt)
McKinley Well 3	11/18/2020	34	12/2/2020	34	34

State law (Health and Safety Code Section 116455) requires timely notification to local governing bodies (e.g., city council, county board of supervisors, or both) whenever a Notification Level is exceeded in a drinking water source.

What is a Notification Level?

A notification level (NL) is a nonregulatory, precautionary health-based measure for concentrations of chemicals in drinking water that warrant notification and further monitoring and assessment.

What is a Response Level?

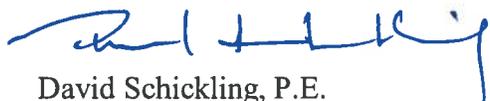
A response level (RL) is a nonregulatory, precautionary health-based measure that is set higher than a notification level and represents a recommended chemical concentration level at which water systems consider taking a water source out of service or provide treatment if that option is available to them.

PFOS and PFOA have been extensively produced and studied in the United States. These man-made substances have been synthesized for water and lipid resistance. They have been used extensively in consumer products such as carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food, and other materials (e.g., cookware) designed to be waterproof, stain-resistant or non-stick. In addition, they have been used in fire-retarding foam and various industrial processes. The origin of the contaminant in our water supply at this time is unknown. Based on the current evaluation of recent human and animal toxicity data, lifetime exposure to PFOA and PFOS over certain levels may result in adverse health effects, including hepatotoxicity, immunotoxicity, thyroid toxicity, reproductive toxicity, and cancer (pancreatic and liver).

In addition to notifying the local governing bodies, Golden State Water is taking proactive steps to notify all of our Hollydale customers via mail and/or email, and information has been posted to the website. Although customer outreach is not required by DDW in this instance, Golden State Water has elected to send these notifications to maintain a high level of transparency with customers. Golden State Water will also be including this information on our next annual Consumer Confidence Report.

If you have any questions or would like additional information in this matter, please feel free to contact Samantha Chen, Water Quality Manager at Samantha.chen@gswater.com.

Sincerely,



David Schickling, P.E.
General Manager, Central District
Golden State Water Company

cc: Adriana Figueroa, Public Works Director

Enclosures:

1. GSCW's Notification Letter to Hollydale system customers



Dear Valued Customer,

Golden State Water Company (Golden State Water) has been providing reliable water service to Californians for more than 90 years, and water quality has always been our top priority.

We are contacting customers served by our Hollydale water system to share the update that recent tests have detected the presence of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) in the groundwater extracted by one of Golden State Water Company's wells that supply the Hollydale water system. Although customer notification is not required, we are taking steps to proactively make you aware to maintain full transparency with regards to water quality.

The Hollydale water system provides drinking water to portions of the South Gate and Paramount communities. The water delivered to customers in these communities has and continues to meet all quality and safety standards, which are established to protect public health.

Background

In September 2020, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued more than 200 orders to water providers throughout California to conduct sampling for PFOS and PFOA in their systems.

Tests conducted at Golden State Water's McKinley Well 3 (Hollydale water system) detected the presence of PFOA at 7.0 parts per trillion (ppt), above the state's Notification Level of 5.1 ppt, although below the state's Response Level of 10 ppt. The presence of PFOS was detected at 34 ppt, above the state's Notification level of 6.5 ppt, although below the state's Response Level of 40 ppt.

About PFOA and PFOS

PFOA and PFOS are fluorinated organic chemicals that have been used in the making of domestic products such as carpets, cookware and other products that are resistant to water, grease or stains. PFOA and PFOS have also been used for suppressing fires, primarily at airfields and military bases.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), most people have been exposed to PFOA and PFOS because they are used in an array of consumer products. While consumer products and food are a large source of exposure to these chemicals for most people, drinking water can be an additional source in the small percentage of communities where these chemicals have infiltrated water supplies.

Additional Information/Resources

Golden State Water routinely monitors and tests its water, and water quality test results are directly submitted from the State-certified laboratory to the SWRCB's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and recorded on the State's website for full transparency. Visit the DDW website (sdwis.waterboards.ca.gov/PDWW/) to view test results. Golden State Water also makes water quality information available via annual Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR).

To learn more about PFOA and PFOS, customers are encouraged to visit gswater.com/pfoa-and-pfos/ or call one of our friendly customer service representatives at 1.800.999.4033.

Golden State Water takes great pride in our record of providing high-quality water and exceptional service to customers. Thank you for being a valued customer.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Si tiene preguntas, por favor llámenos al número 1.800.999.4033.

Sincerely,

Golden State Water Company
