

The City of Ballinger

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the City of Ballinger TX2000001 water system that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) at 0.080 milligrams per liter (mg/L) based on locational running annual average (LRAA) and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for total trihalomethanes indicates a compliance value in quarter one 2018 of 0.098 mg/L for DBP2-02 and 0.091 mg/L for DBP2-01.

Trihalomethanes are a group of volatile organic compounds that are formed when chlorine, added to the water during the treatment process for disinfection, reacts with naturally-occurring organic matter in the water.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidney, or central nervous systems and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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.

Trihalomethanes are formed when organic matter in the water reacts with chlorine, that is used for disinfection. In conjunction with our engineering firm, Jacob and Martin, we have now changed our disinfection zones and are now using a different disinfection chemical at the head of the plant to try and combat our TTHM results. **Our first quarter TTHM readings were in compliance with TCEQ MCL's** (*maximum contaminant level*), however, we have to have 4 good quarters with an average combined reading that is below the MCL of 0.080 parts per million before this problem is solved. Hopefully we are now on our way to having readings below the MCL for TTHM's.

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 regarding this matter, you may contact Randy Everett at (325) 365-3116.