Ketchikan Public Utilities
2930 Tongass Avenue
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Date

Name
Address
City, State Zip

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Ketchikan Now Has Levels of Haloacetic Acids That Meet Drinking Water Standards

KPU routinely monitors for the presence of numerous drinking water contaminants including a group of compounds known as haloacetic acids. Unlike KPU's earlier notices that you have received, the samples collected in April 2008 did not exceed the Federal maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 60 parts per billion (ppb). The analytical results of the four haloacetic acid samples taken this past quarter averaged 47.3 ppb and the running annual average for the past 12 months was 58.4 ppb for the same group of regulated compounds. The chlorine disinfectant residuals and total trihalomethanes continued to meet the MCL requirements.

What is being done?

- The Water Division has been actively flushing hydrants throughout the community on a regular basis to minimize the amount of time that water remains within the system. In addition, the Water Division has also reduced the amount of unreacted chlorine residual entering the distribution system. As reported in last quarter's report, the net effect of these efforts has achieved the required 60 ppb MCL or less for haloacetic acids on both a quarterly and also on a running annual average basis.

- KPU is continuing with the program of flushing hydrants and keeping the chlorine residual as low as is practical. Although there are less naturally occurring dissolved organic materials available to react with the chlorine disinfectant during the cooler and wetter months of the year which resulted in less haloacetic acids' formation, these same efforts should also reduce the greater amount of dissolved organic materials occurring during the summer month's warmer weather. It may result in a lesser amount of disinfection byproducts created than were experienced during the warmer months of previous years.

- KPU has contracted with an engineering firm, CH2M Hill, to develop an optimum solution that will reduce the amount of haloacetic acids present and bring Ketchikan into compliance with the EPA's regulations. The Ketchikan City Council has approved our planned approach of using chlorine and ultraviolet light (UV) as dual disinfectants followed by ammonia injection to reduce the formation of disinfection byproducts. This combination may reduce the amount of haloacetic acids formed and still provide adequate disinfection at all times. The project design is complete and has been conditionally approved by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). The project has been advertised for bid and will be awarded by the Ketchikan City Council at their meeting of July 17th. An aggressive construction schedule will have the new equipment fully operational in late 2009 and Ketchikan will again be in full compliance with existing EPA regulations.

- For more information, please contact John Kleinegger, KPU Water Division Manager at 225-1000, ext. 399.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by Ketchikan Public Utilities. State Water System ID No. 120232.