

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Del Oro Water Co., River Island District, Territory 1 Wells No. 5 and 33
has high levels of nitrate
DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD
OR PREGNANT WOMEN OR USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Del Oro Water Company (DOWC) routinely tests for contaminants in the drinking water provided to their customers. The results for nitrate testing in the month of November were as follows:

Water sample results received February 6, 2018 for Well No. 33, showed nitrate levels of 9.41 mg/L and for Well No. 5, nitrate levels of 4.71 mg/L. These are below the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10 milligrams per liter. Although the nitrate levels during the most recent monitoring period showed results below the MCL, nitrate levels in the water tend to fluctuate and it is possible that the nitrate level may increase at any time between sampling events. Public notification will continue until the nitrate problem is resolved. **Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.**

What should I do?

- **DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS.** *Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.*
- **PREGNANT WOMEN SHOULD NOT CONSUME THE WATER.** *High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.*
- Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further notice.
- **DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems, storm water run-off, and fertilizers). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year. We will let you know if the amount of nitrate is again below the limit. Del Oro is addressing the groundwater contamination issue by the proposed installation of a Surface Water Treatment Facility that will utilize surface water from the Tule River conveyed through the Pleasant Valley Canal. Del Oro is working with both the California Public Utilities Commission and the State Water Resources Control Board – Drinking Water Division in pursuing this proposed project. It is anticipated that the construction of the new water treatment plant will commence in 2018 and continue through 2019.

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 public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- **SCHOOLS:** Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS** (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- **BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, or OPERATORS:** Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by: Del Oro Water Company, River Island District, Territory 1. Water System No.: 5400665
For more information, please contact: Cathy Fluharty with Del Oro Water Company at (530) 809-3971 or by mail at Drawer 5172, Chico, CA 95927 or Tricia Wathen, Visalia District Engineer with the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water at (559) 447-3300.

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