



Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

# **A Quality Partnership 2010 Drinking Water Quality Report**

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# **A Quality Partnership**

n 2010, LADWP collected over 25,000 water samples across the city, and performed more than 240,000 water quality tests-not just for compliance, but also for research and operational improvements. We tested for over 200 different contaminants throughout the year including both, regulated contaminants such as arsenic, chromium, lead, and disinfection by-products, as well as unregulated contaminants such as sodium and boron. Every day, hundreds of LADWP employees work diligently to ensure that you receive the high-guality, low cost drinking water you've come to expect. This is our commitment to you.

After water completes multiple treatment processes, it is distributed throughout the City via trunk lines, distribution lines and ultimately service lines that feed the water to your meter. In 2010, LADWP delivered more than 200 billion gallons of water to 4.1 million residents that met or surpassed all health-based drinking water standards. However, in spite of all our efforts, some of our customers do not get to enjoy this high quality water within their home because degraded in-house plumbing negatively affects the ultimate quality of the tap water.

LADWP would like to invite you to partner with us by learning more about what we do to provide high quality drinking water and what you can do to get the best possible glass of water from your tap [See pages 3-4]. Because, at the end of the day, we all want the same thing—the best!

# Beginning of L.A. Aqueducts The Journey Begins: Lee Vining Intake

The beginning of the Los Angeles Aqueducts. Water is collected from creeks in the Mono Basin and the Owens River in the Owens Valley and then carried to the City of Los Angeles by the Los Angeles Aqueducts, which operate completely by gravity, making clean hydroelectric energy along the way.





Dr. Pankaj Parekh Director of Water Quality

# Image: State Water Project

# **Water Treatment Processes**

# Surface Water Treatment

LADWP water comes from four very different water sources—three are from surface water sources like lakes and rivers, and the other is groundwater from local wells and springs. The taste and appearance of surface water can vary seasonally and groundwater generally contains more minerals. All these factors make for different tasting water. Despite these variations, LADWP water meets all drinking water standards for health and aesthetics.

All water coming from the Los Angeles Aqueducts, the California Aqueduct (a.k.a. State Water Project), and the Colorado River Aqueduct is filtered and treated to ensure a safe drinking water supply. At the Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant, water is treated as follows:

Water flows into the filtration plant by gravity and travels through screens to remove environmental debris such as twigs and dead leaves. Ozone, a super-charged oxygen molecule and a powerful disinfecting agent is injected into the water to destroy bacteria and other impurities that affect taste, odor and color. Treatment chemicals are quickly dispersed into the water to make fine particles called floc. A six-foot-deep filter (crushed coal over gravel) removes the floc and previously added chemicals. Chlorine added during the final step ensures lasting disinfection and protects the water as it travels through the City's distribution system to your tap. Fluoride is optimized to promote oral health by strengthening tooth enamel.

# Groundwater Treatment

The City's vast groundwater supply in the San Fernando and Central Basins are generally clean. LADWP pumps from the clean parts of the basins and disinfects this groundwater with chlorine as a safeguard against microorganisms. In December, 2009, the federal Ground Water Rule went into effect. This regulation now requires all water agencies across the country to disinfect groundwater sources, a standard practice that LADWP has had for decades. Because of man-made contaminants found in San Fernando Valley groundwater wells, LADWP continuously monitors and ensures that all well water meets water quality standards and results are far below the maximum contaminant levels permitted by federal or state regulations. LADWP is formulating a comprehensive long term groundwater treatment plan for the San Fernando Basin that will allow us to extract more water and treat it so we can safely increase our local supply of water.

# Improving Water Quality At Home

It is common for the integrity of pipes on the customer-side of the meter to degrade to the point that water quality and taste may be negatively affected. Faucet fixtures, water heaters, water softeners and water filters can negatively affect the taste of your water. LADWP has information and tools that can help you maintain the quality of the water delivered to your home or business. LADWP adds chlorine to keep water safe during its long journey to your tap. But, once the water reaches your



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# Making Hydropower San Francisquito Power Plant 1

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Water generates electricity as it passes through the hydroelectric plant

# End of LA Aqueducts The Cascades

Seen along Interstate 5, this is the terminus (end) of the Aqueducts. Water flows over the "steps" to release some of the water's energy.

tap, the chlorine is no longer needed. There are numerous home treatment options that can be implemented to improve the smell and taste of your water. To remove any objectionable chlorine odors, simply chill the water in the refrigerator. This alone can significantly improve the taste. You can also use a filter specific for the removal of chlorine or chloramine. Once filtered, be sure to keep the water in the refrigerator to prevent any new growth of bacteria.

If you intend to buy a water filter to improve the taste, odor, or appearance of your tap water, be sure to purchase one that is certified by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF), an independent testing organization whose certification is the industry's seal of approval.

If you need a more comprehensive home water treatment device due to a health condition, such as a weakened immune system or chemical allergy, be sure the treatment device is certified by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

Purchasing and installing a faucetmounted or under-the-sink filter is another way to improve the taste of your water. As with any filter, be sure to change the filter cartridges regularly according to the manufacturer's recommendation.



To learn more about water quality in your home visit www.ladwp.com, or call [213] 367-3182 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

# Water Quality News & Updates

# Safeguarding Our Surface Water

The Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR), administered by CDPH, is a drinking water regulation that safeguards reservoir supplies from microbiological contamination that may occur when rain runoff from nearby hillsides and slopes enters the water. In Los Angeles, SWTR applied to four open water reservoirs – Lower Stone Canyon, Encino, and Upper and Lower Hollywood.

LADWP successfully met the compliance deadlines and treatment requirements for all four open reservoirs that were subject to SWTR. Upper and Lower Hollywood Reservoirs were successfully removed in July 2001 and replaced with two 30 million gallon buried tanks. New support facilities were successfully commissioned to serve filtered water from Encino Reservoir in January 2006 and Lower Stone Canyon Reservoir in September 2008.

The latest drinking water regulation related to the treatment of surface water is the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2). This rule requires



Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant (LAAFP) Inlet Structure Water flows through the inlet of the LAAFP, where large pieces of debris or algae are removed by screens.



Ozonation

Ozone Contact Chamber, LAAFP Water is exposed to ozone gas, a disinfectant that prepares the water for filtration.

that LADWP cover or remove from service the remaining six uncovered distribution reservoirs, or provide additional treatment to achieve prescribed inactivation or removal of viruses, Cryptosporidium, and Giardia by April 1, 2009 or be in compliance with a state-approved schedule to meet the same requirements. The six reservoirs are Los Angeles, Upper Stone Canyon, Santa Ynez, Ivanhoe, Silver Lake, and Elysian Reservoirs. Santa Ynez Reservoir was removed from service in November 2010. It will be put back in service after a floating cover is installed in 2011.

On April 1, 2008, LADWP notified CDPH that it is fully committed to complying with the new regulations and requested an extension of the April 1, 2009 deadline. LADWP submitted an interim operations plan, a schedule for the required reservoir improvements, and executed a Compliance Agreement with CDPH on March 31, 2009. LADWP is working diligently to bring all reservoirs into compliance as quickly as possible and will provide the public with project updates in the annual water quality

report. The estimated cost to modify the six reservoirs is \$1.65 billion.

In preparation for compliance with LT2, LADWP has been routinely monitoring its water sources for microbial pathogens since 2005. Cryptosporidium and Giardia are occasionally detected in very low numbers in some of our reservoirs and in the L.A. Aqueduct and we are fully committed to achieving compliance with the LT2. To further inform our customers on this topic, below is a generic statement from CDPH regarding Cryptosporidium.

"Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water and finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium

# Filtration

Anthracite Coal Filters, LAAFP Water passes through 60 inches of anthracite coal filters, which remove particles smaller than can be seen through a microscope.



# **Sources of Water for City Areas**

### San Fernando Valley Communities Sources: Los Angeles Aqueduct, local groundwater, and MWD State Water Project.

| Arleta          | Northridge    | Tarzana        |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Canoga Park     | Olive View    | Toluca Lake    |
| Chatsworth      | Pacoima       | Tujunga        |
| Encino          | Panorama City | Valley Village |
| Granada Hills   | Porter Ranch  | Van Nuys       |
| Hollywood Hills | Reseda        | Warner Center  |
| Lake View       | Sherman Oaks  | West Hills     |
| Terrace         | Studio City   | Winnetka       |
| Mission Hills   | Sun Valley    | Woodland Hills |
| North Hills     | Sunland       |                |
| North Hollywood | Sylmar        |                |

### Western Los Angeles Communities Sources: Los Angeles Aqueduct and MWD

State Water Project.

| Bel Air Estates | Mar Vista           | West Los Angeles |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Beverly Glen    | Pacific Palisades   | Westchester      |
| Brentwood       | Palisades Highlands | Westwood         |
| Castellamare    | Palms               |                  |
| Century City    | Playa del Rey       |                  |
| Cheviot Hills   | Sawtelle            |                  |
| Culver City*    | Venice              |                  |
|                 |                     |                  |

### **Eastern Los Angeles Communities** Sources: MWD State Water Project and Colorado River Aqueduct.

Atwater Village El Sereno Montecito Heights Boyle Heights Glassell Park Monterev Hills Cypress Park Highland Park Mt. Washington Eagle Rock Lincoln Heights Echo Park

**Central Los Angeles Communities** Sources: Los Angeles Agueduct, MWD State Water Project, and local groundwater.

| Baldwin Hills<br>Chinatown | Hollywood<br>Hyde Park | Mt. Olympus<br>Park La Brea |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Country Club               | Koreatown              | Rancho Park                 |
| Park                       | L.A. City Strip*       | Silverlake                  |
| Crenshaw                   | Little Tokyo           | Watts                       |
| Griffith Park              | Los Feliz              | West Hollywood*             |
| Hancock Park               | Mid City               | Westlake                    |
|                            |                        |                             |

# **Harbor Communities**

Sources: MWD State Water Project and Colorado River Aqueduct

East San Pedro Harbor Gateway\* Wilmington (Terminal Island) L.A. City Strip\* Harbor City San Pedro

\* parts of





may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immunocompromised persons are at greater risk of developing lifethreatening illness. We encourage immunocompromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water." (source: CDPH)

# **Special Population** Precautions

There are certain health conditions for which customers may need specially treated water. Customers with weakened immune systems who may have undergone chemotherapy treatment, received organ transplants, suffer from HIV/AIDS, or other immune system disorders. Some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. Customers with these types of health challenges should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Contact the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791, or visit www.epa.gov., for free guidelines on how to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants.

# **Chlorine and Chloramine**

LADWP is gradually switching from chlorine to chloramine to disinfect the water we serve. This will take several more years and, in the meantime, customers should expect to receive either type of disinfectant in their water at any time.

Both chlorine and chloramine are effective killers of bacteria and other microorganisms, but chloramine forms less by-products and does not have a chlorinous odor. Customers in the Harbor area of the City have received water treated with



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chloramine for more than 25 years. Customers in Eastern Los Angeles and the Sunland-Tujunga area are also receiving water treated with chloramine.

Since chlorine and chloramine are different chemicals, certain types of water users must adjust their additional treatment to handle either disinfectant. Operators of kidney dialysis machines should monitor their equipment more frequently for both "free" and "total" chlorine. The Southern California Renal Disease Council supports this recommendation.

Customers who maintain fish ponds. tanks, or aquaria should also make necessary adjustments in water quality treatment, as both chlorine and chloramine are toxic to fish. For further information, please visit www.ladwp.com or call our Water Quality Customer Services group at (213) 367-3182.

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# Filtered Water to Pump Stations

Filter Weir Water from each of the 24 filters combine at the Filter Weir before leaving the Filtration Plant

# Chlorination

8 Chlorination Station

Chlorinator controls the amount of chlorine added to protect against bacteria and pathogens as water travels through the distribution system.



# **2010 Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Results**

Tables I-IV list the results of water tests performed by LADWP and MWD from January to December 2010. LADWP tests for over 200 contaminants. These tables include only contaminants with values that are detected.

# How to Read the Tables

The constituents/contaminants found in the water served in your area are listed as follows:

- For San Fernando Valley Area water test results are under the Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant, the Northern Combined Wells, and MWD Jensen Filtration Plant columns
- For Western Los Angeles Area water test results are under the Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant column
- For Central Los Angeles Area water test results are under the Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant and the Southern Combined Wells columns
- For Harbor/Eastern Los Angeles Area water test results are under the MWD Jensen, Weymouth, and Diemer Filtration Plants columns

Some constituents/contaminants are reported on a citywide basis as required by the California Department of Public Health

The unregulated contaminants reported on an area-wide basis are included for additional information on the water served in your area.

# Table I

Calendar Year 2010 Water Quality Monitoring Results Health-Based Primary Drinking Water Standards (MCLs) Constituents/Contaminants Detected in Treated Water

### continued from page 7

# A Better Understanding of Radon

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that is not a significant issue in most of California. In 2010, very low levels of radon were detected in some of our ground water supplies (see Table III on page 12). There is no established drinking water standard or monitoring requirement for radon. In general, radon entering a home through tap water is a very small contributor to radon in indoor air. Although the radon levels were well below what the EPA is currently considering for a standard, the EPA has asked us to share the following general information with you to help you better understand radon.

"Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap



# North Hollywood Sump and Pump Station

# Well Water Blending

Water flows by gravity from the LAAFP to the North Hollywood Pump Station. Well water from the San Fernando Valley mixes with the aqueduct water in the North Hollywood Sump before it is distributed into the city by large pumps.

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| Contaminants                      | Units | Los Angeles Aqueduct<br>Units Filtration Plant |             | Northern Combined Wells |             | Southern Combined Wells |            | MWD Weymouth Plant |             | MWD Diemer Plant |            | MWD Jensen Plant |           | State Primary<br>Standard (MCL) | Meet<br>Primary | State PHG<br>or Federal | Major Sources in Our Drinking Water   |
|-----------------------------------|-------|--|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---|
|                                   |       | Average  | Range       | Average                 | Range       | Average                 | Range      | Average            | Range       | Average          | Range      | Average          | Range     | or [MRDL]                       | (Yes/No)        | (MCLG)                  |   |
| Aluminum                          | µg/L  | <50  | <50         | <50                     | <50         | <50                     | <50        | 170 (a)            | <50 - 200   | 170 (a)          | 66 - 230   | 82 (a)           | 56 — 100  | 1000                            | YES             | 600                     | Erosion of natural deposits; residue from surface water treatment processes                   |
| Arsenic                           | µg/L  | 4 (a)  | <2-6        | 2                       | <2-4        | 2                       | <2-3       | 2 (a)              | <2-3        | 2 (a)            | <2-3       | 3 (a)            | 2 - 3.2   | 10                              | YES             | 0.004                   | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards;<br>glass and electronics production wastes |
| Barium                            | µg/L  | <100   | <100        | <100                    | <100        | <100                    | <100 - 127 | 110                | <100 - 130  | 110              | <100 - 120 | <100             | <100      | 1000                            | YES             | 2000                    | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Bromate (a, b)                    | µg/L  | <5   | <5 (b)      | NA                      | NA          | NA                      | NA         | NA                 | NA          | NA               | NA         | 7 (a)            | <5 - 11   | 10                              | YES             | 0.1                     | By-product of ozone disinfection; formed under sunlight                                       |
| Gross Alpha Particle Activity (c) | pCi/L | 4  | 4           | 5                       | 5 - 5.2     | 5                       | <3-5       | 5                  | <3-8        | 6                | 4-9        | 3                | <3 - 7    | 15                              | YES             | (0)                     | Naturally present in environment  |
| Gross Beta Particle Activity (c)  | pCi/L | <4   | <4 - 5      | <4                      | <4-5        | <4                      | <4-7       | 4                  | <4 - 10     | 4                | <4-6       | <4               | <4-5      | 50                              | YES             | (0)                     | Naturally present in environment  |
| Nitrate (as NO <sub>3</sub> )     | mg/L  | <2   | <2 - 2      | 8                       | <2 - 14     | 8                       | <2 - 17    | <2 (a)             | <2-2        | <2 (a)           | <2         | 2.6 (a)          | 2 – 3     | 45                              | YES             | 45                      | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff and leaching from fertilizer use                          |
| Nitrate + Nitrite (as N)          | mg/L  | <0.4   | < 0.4 - 0.4 | 2                       | < 0.4 - 3   | 2.0                     | < 0.4 - 4  | <0.4               | < 0.4 - 0.4 | <0.4             | <0.4       | 0.6              | 0.5 – 0.7 | 10                              | YES             | 10                      | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff and leaching from fertilizer use                          |
| Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)         | µg/L  | <0.5   | <0.5        | <0.5                    | < 0.5 - 0.6 | <0.5                    | <0.5       | <0.5               | <0.5        | <0.5             | <0.5       | <0.5             | <0.5      | 5                               | YES             | 0.06                    | Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, auto shops (metal degreaser)                          |
| Trichloroethene (TCE)             | μg/L  | <0.5   | <0.5        | 1                       | < 0.5 - 3   | 1                       | < 0.5 - 2  | <0.5               | <0.5        | <0.5             | <0.5       | <0.5             | <0.5      | 5                               | YES             | 1.7                     | Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories                                     |
| Turbidity (d)                     | NTU   | 100%   | 2.4 (e)     | NA                      | NA          | NA                      | NA         | 100%               | 0.05        | 100%             | 0.08       | 100%             | 0.05      | TT                              | YES             | none                    | Soil runoff   |
| Uranium (c)                       | pCi/L | 3  | 2-4         | 3                       | 2-4         | 3                       | <1-6       | 3                  | 2-3.4       | 3                | 2.9 - 4    | 1.8              | 1.6 – 2   | 20                              | YES             | 0.5                     | Erosion of natural deposits   |

## Health-Based Primary Drinking Water Standards (MCLs) Constituents/Contaminants Detected in Treated Water and Reported on City-Wide Basis

| Contaminants                      | Units       | Average                                  | Range   | State Primary Standard<br>(MCL) or [MRDL]   | Meet Primary<br>Standard ? | State PHG/ [MRDLG]<br>or Federal (MCLG) | Major Sources in Our Drinking Water                                    |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|---|---|----------------------------|---|--|
| Bromate (f)                       | µg/L        | City-wide Average = 5.7                  | Range = <5 - 5.8                                | 10  | YES                        | 0.1                                     | By-product of ozone disinfection; formed under sunlight                |
| Chlorine Residual, Total          | mg/L        | Average = 1.8 (a)                        | Range = 1.6 - 1.8                               | [4]   | YES                        | [4]                                     | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment                        |
| Copper (at-the-tap) AL = 1300 (g) | µg/L        | 90th Percentile value = 576              | number of samples exceeding $AL = 0$ out of 110 | TT  | YES                        | 300                                     | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems                 |
| Fluoride                          | mg/L        | Average = 0.8                            | Range = $0.7 - 0.9$                             | 2   | YES                        | 1                                       | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth |
| Lead (at-the-tap) AL = 15 (g)     | µg/L        | 90th Percentile value = 5.6              | number of samples exceeding $AL = 3$ out of 110 | TT  | YES                        | 0.2                                     | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems                 |
| Total Coliform Bacteria           | % Positives | Average = 0.9% Coliform positive samples | Range = $0 - 0.9\%$ Coliform positive samples   | 5% of monthly samples are coliform positive | YES                        | (0)                                     | Naturally present in the environment                                   |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)     | µg/L        | City-wide Average = 27 (a)               | Range = <2 - 103                                | 60  | YES                        | none                                    | By-product of drinking water disinfection                              |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)      | µg/L        | City-wide Average = 56 (a)               | Range = 13 - 109                                | 80  | YES                        | none                                    | By-product of drinking water chlorination                              |

# Table II

# Calendar Year 2010 Water Quality Monitoring Results

Aesthetic-Based Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SMCLs) Constituents/Contaminants Detected in Treated Water

| Contaminants                 | Units | Los Angele<br>Filtratio | s Aqueduct<br>on Plant | Northern (<br>We | Combined<br>Ils | Southern Com | bined Wells | MWD Weymouth<br>Plant |             |
|------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
|                              |       | Average                 | Range                  | Average          | Range           | Average      | Range       | Average               | Range       |
| Aluminum                     | µg/L  | <50                     | <50                    | <50              | <50             | <50          | <50         | 170 (a)               | <50-200     |
| Chloride                     | mg/L  | 42                      | 33 - 57                | 43               | 33 - 58         | 43           | 25 - 62     | 93 (a)                | 84 - 94     |
| Color (unfiltered)           | ACU   | 3.5                     | 3 — 5                  | 3.2              | 3 — 5           | 3.2          | 3 - 7       | 1 (a)                 | 1           |
| Manganese NL = 500           | μg/L  | <20                     | <20                    | <20              | <20             | <20          | <20-37      | <20                   | <20         |
| Odor                         | TON   | <1                      | <1                     | <1               | <1-1            | <1           | <1 - 1      | 2                     | 2           |
| Specific Conductance         | µS/cm | 390                     | 301 – 518              | 623              | 320 - 735       | 616          | 486 - 750   | 950 (a)               | 460 1000    |
| Sulfate                      | mg/L  | 33                      | 26 - 43                | 113              | 36 - 164        | 113          | 69 - 164    | 210 (a)               | 160 - 250   |
| Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) | mg/L  | 226                     | 210 - 267              | 391              | 225 - 491       | 391          | 326 - 522   | 570 (a)               | 470 - 630   |
| Turbidity (h)                | NTU   | <0.1                    | <0.1-0.15              | 0.1              | 0.1 - 0.3       | 0.1          | < 0.1 - 0.3 | 0.05 (a)              | 0.03 - 0.06 |
| Zinc                         | µg/L  | <50                     | <50                    | <50              | <50             | <50          | <50-1040    | <50                   | <50         |

# **Abbreviations and Footnotes**

 mg/L = miligrams per liter (equivalent to ppm)

 µg/L = micrograms per liter (equivalent to ppt)

 ng/L = nanograms per liter (equivalent to ppt)

 pGi/L = picoCuries per liter

 % = percertage

 µS/Cm = microSiemens per centimeter

 NTU = nephelometric turbidity unit

 TON = threshold odor number

 CFU = colony-forming unit

 ACU = apparent color unit

 < = less than</td>

 NA = not applicable

NT = not tested HRAA = highest running annual average

(a) Values reflect Highest Running Annual Average (HRAA). HRAA is the highest of all Running Annual Averages (RAAs). RAA is a calculated average of all the samples collected within twelve months period.

(b) Bromate is tested in water treated with ozone. Bromate has also been found in chlorinated treated water of some LADWP reservoirs exposed to sunlight. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) only tests bromate at Jensen Filtration Plant.

(c) Radiological monitoring is performed in cycles of various periods of time. LADWP performed Gross Alpha testing in 2006 – 2009 and all other radiological testing in 2009 – 2010 for samples collected at Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant, Northern Combined Wells blend points, and Southern Combined Wells blend points. MWD performed all radiological testing in 2008 for samples collected at Weymouth, Diemer, and Jensen Plants.

| MWD<br>Pl | Diemer<br>ant | MWD J<br>Pla | ensen<br>nt | State Secondary | Meet<br>Secondary | Major Sources in Our Drinking Water  |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| Average   | Range         | Average      | Range       | ince            | Standard?         |  |
| 170 (a)   | 66 - 230      | 82 (a)       | 56 - 100    | 200             | YES               | Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment process |
| 93 (a)    | 83 - 93       | 79 (a)       | 67 - 80     | 500             | YES               | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence                      |
| 1 (a)     | 1 – 2         | 1 (a)        | 1 - 2       | 15              | YES               | Naturally-occurring organic materials  |
| <20       | <20           | <20          | <20         | 50              | YES               | Leaching from natural deposits   |
| 2         | 2             | 3            | 3           | 3               | YES               | Naturally-occurring organic materials  |
| 970(a)    | 460 - 1000    | 580 (a)      | 500 - 580   | 1600            | YES               | Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence                    |
| 230 (a)   | 160 - 240     | 63 (a)       | 55 — 65     | 500             | YES               | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits  |
| 590 (a)   | 470 - 610     | 330 (a)      | 290 - 330   | 1000            | YES               | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits  |
| 0.04 (a)  | 0.03 - 0.16   | 0.04 (a)     | 0.03 - 0.08 | 5               | YES               | Soil runoff  |
| <50       | <50           | <50          | <50         | 5000            | YES               | Run off/leaching from natural deposit  |

(d) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

The Primary Drinking Water Standard for turbidity level at water filtration plants is less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in at least 95% of the measurements taken in any month and shall not exceed 1.0 NTU at any time. The reporting requirement for treatment plant turbidity is: report the highest single measurement in the calendar year and the lowest monthly percentage of measurements that are less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.

(e) The highest turbidity at the Los Angeles Filtration Plant effluent was 2.4 NTU on December 30, 2009. This high turbidity reading reflects a single reading taken out of some 35,000 readings. Turbidity is monitored in 15 minute intervals all year round.

(f) Values reflect annual range and average of samples collected from six open reservoirs; Elysian, Ivanhoe, Los Angeles, Santa Ynez, Silver Lake, and Upper Stone Canyon.

(g) At-the-tap monitoring of lead and copper is conducted every three years as required by the Lead and Copper Rule. A system is out of compliance if the Regulatory Action Level is exceeded in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of all samples at the customers' tap. Although the City's treated water has little, if any, detectable lead, studies were conducted and corrosion control is schedluel for implementation.

(h) Values reflect testing at entry to the distribution system.

(i) NDMA was tested in 2009 – 2010 for compliance to Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR2).



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water is, in most cases, a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picoCuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your State radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON),"

continued on page 14



# Water Storage Ivanhoe Reservoir

Shade balls filling the reservoir will protect the water from sunlight as the water travels onto nearby neighborhoods.

main to Ivanhoe Reservoir in the Silver Lake area of the City.

Water from the pump station is carried through a 78" water

Water Travels through the City

10

# **Table |||**

# Calendar Year 2010 Water Quality Monitoring Results

Unregulated Drinking Water Constituents/Contaminants Detected in Treated Water

| Constituents/Contaminants                      | Units  | Los Angel<br>Filtrati | es Aqueduct<br>ion Plant | Northern<br>W | Combined<br>ells | Southern Combined<br>Wells |            |  |
|--|--------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------|--|
|  |        | Average               | Range                    | Average       | Range            | Average                    | Range      |  |
| Bicarbonate Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) | mg/L   | 160                   | 88 - 125                 | 144           | 104 - 176        | 144                        | 128 – 201  |  |
| Boron NL = 1000                                | µg/L   | 471                   | 337 - 628                | 322           | 256 - 433        | 322                        | 115 - 390  |  |
| Bromide  | µg/L   | 23                    | <20-38                   | 25            | <20-49           | 25                         | <20 - 77   |  |
| Calcium  | mg/L   | 25                    | 23 – 27                  | 57            | 27 – 74          | 57                         | 44 - 86    |  |
| Chromium, Hexavalent                           | µg/L   | <1                    | <1                       | <1            | <1 - 2           | <1                         | <1-3.6     |  |
| Heterotrophic Plate Count Bacteria (HPC)       | CFU/mL | ND                    | ND                       | NA            | NA               | NA                         | NA         |  |
| Magnesium                                      | mg/L   | 8                     | 7 – 9                    | 15            | 8 – 19           | 15                         | 10 - 23    |  |
| N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) NL=10 (i)        | ng/L   | <2                    | <2                       | <2            | <2               | <2                         | <2         |  |
| рН   | Unit   | 7.4                   | 7.2 - 7.6                | 7.4           | 7.1 – 7.6        | 7.4                        | 7.0 - 7.8  |  |
| Phosphate (as PO4)                             | µg/L   | 51                    | 40-64                    | 100           | 40 - 156         | 100                        | 77 – 1180  |  |
| Potassium                                      | mg/L   | 4                     | 3 - 5                    | 4             | 4-5              | 4                          | 3 – 4      |  |
| Radon (c)                                      | pCi/L  | <100                  | <100                     | <100          | <100             | <100                       | <100 - 150 |  |
| Silica (as SiO <sub>2</sub> )                  | mg/L   | 17                    | 16 - 18                  | 20            | 16 - 21          | 20                         | 19 - 24    |  |
| Sodium   | mg/L   | 45                    | 38 - 53                  | 49            | 32 - 53          | 49                         | 44 - 60    |  |
| Total Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )       | mg/L   | 106                   | 88 - 125                 | 144           | 104 - 176        | 144                        | 128 — 201  |  |
| Total Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )         | mg/L   | 93                    | 86 - 104                 | 205           | 103 - 265        | 205                        | 162 - 294  |  |
| Total Organic Carbon (TOC)                     | mg/L   | 1.5                   | 1.4 - 1.7                | 0.8           | 0.7 – 1.7        | 0.8                        | 0.3 - 1.1  |  |
| Vanadium NL = 50                               | µg/L   | <3                    | <3                       | <3            | <3-4             | <3                         | <3-6       |  |

| MWD Weymouth<br>Plant |           | MWD I<br>Pla | Diemer<br>Int | MWD<br>Pl | Jensen<br>ant | Major Sources in Our Drinking Water                            |  |  |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|--|--|--|
| Average               | Range     | Average      | Range         | Average   | Range         |  |  |  |
| NT                    | NT        | NT           | NT            | NT        | NT            | Naturally-occurring dissolved gas; erosion of natural deposits |  |  |
| 120                   | 120 - 130 | 120          | 120 –130      | 210       | 200 - 220     | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |
| NT                    | NT        | NT           | NT            | NT        | NT            | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence      |  |  |
| 64 (a)                | 49 – 71   | 66 (a)       | 51 — 70       | 30 (a)    | 26 - 31       | Erosion of natural deposits; natural hot springs               |  |  |
| <1 (a)                | < 1       | <1 (a)       | <1            | <1 (a)    | <1            | Industrial discharge; erosion of natural deposits              |  |  |
| <1                    | <1-1      | 1            | <1 - 10       | <1        | <1 - 2        | Naturally present in the environment                           |  |  |
| 26 (a)                | 20 - 28   | 27 (a)       | 22 – 28       | 12 (a)    | 11 – 12       | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |
| <2                    | <2-3      | <2           | <2            | 3         | <2 - 5        | By-product of chloramination                                   |  |  |
| 7.9                   | 7.6 - 8.6 | 7.9          | 7.5 – 8.0     | 8.2       | 8.1 - 8.4     | Naturally-occurring dissolved gases and minerals               |  |  |
| NT                    | NT        | NT           | NT            | NT        | NT            | Erosion of natural deposits, agricultural run-off              |  |  |
| 5 (a)                 | 4 - 5     | 5 (a)        | 4 - 5         | 2.7 (a)   | 2 - 3         | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |
| <100                  | <100      | <100         | <100          | <100      | <100          | Decay of natural deposits                                      |  |  |
| NT                    | NT        | NT           | NT            | NT        | NT            | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |
| 94 (a)                | 83 - 98   | 95 (a)       | 78 – 95       | 67 (a)    | 58 — 65       | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |
| 120 (a)               | 63 - 130  | 110 (a)      | 67 – 120      | 88 (a)    | 81 – 99       | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |
| 260 (a)               | 84 - 300  | 270 (a)      | 92 - 300      | 120 (a)   | 86 - 130      | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |
| 2.1 (a)               | 1.6 - 2.4 | 2.2 (a)      | 1.9 – 2.3     | 1.5 (a)   | 1.3 – 1.8     | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |
| <3                    | <3-3      | 3            | <3-3.3        | 5.2 5-6   |               | Erosion of natural deposits                                    |  |  |

# **Terms Used In The Tables**

**Compliance:** A drinking water standard based on the health risk (primary standards) and aesthetic (secondary standards) exposure of a contaminant to consumers. For example, bacteria and nitrate have strict limits that must be met at all times due to the acute effects they can cause. Other standards, like small amounts of disinfection by-products and man-made chemicals, have standards that are based on a lifetime of exposure because the risk to consumers is very low. Compliance with most standards is based on an average of samples collected within a year. This allows for some fluctuation above and below the numerical standard, while still protecting public health.

Detection Limit for Reporting Purpose (DLR): DLR means the designated minimum level at or above which any analytical finding of a contaminant in drinking water resulting from monitoring required under Title 22 Code of Regulations shall be reported to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the Public Health Goals (PHGs) or Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water. For certain contaminants, compliance with the MCL is based on the average of all samples collected throughout the year.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): MRDL is the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): MRDLG is the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants. MRDLGs are set by the USEPA.

Notification Level (NL): NL is the Health-based advisory levels established by CDPH for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).

Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Public Health Goal (PHG): PHG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA).

Regulatory Action Level (AL): AL is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. ALs are set by the USEPA.

Secondary Drinking Water Standard (SDWS): SMCLs for contaminants that may affect the taste, odor or appearance for drinking water.

Treatment Technique (TT): TT is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. For example, the filtration process is a treatment technique used to reduce turbidity (the cloudiness in water) and microbial contaminants from surface water. High turbidities may be indicative of poor or inadequate filtration.

# Table IV

# Calendar Year 2010 Water Quality Monitoring Results Drinking Water Disinfection By-Products Reported on Area-Wide Basis

| Contaminants                    | Units | San Fernando<br>Units Valley |          | Central<br>Los Angeles |          | Western Los<br>Angeles |          | Harbor /<br>Eastern Los Angeles |          | Major Sources in Our                               |  |
|---------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|----------|--|--|
|                                 |       | Average                      | Range    | Average                | Range    | Average                | Range    | Average                         | Range    | Drinking water                                     |  |
| Bromodichloromethane<br>(BDCM)  | µg/L  | 13                           | 3 - 26   | 11                     | 3 - 25   | 17                     | 2 - 39   | 13                              | 2 - 28   | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |
| Bromoform                       | µg/L  | 6                            | <1 - 26  | 5                      | 1 – 22   | 7                      | <1 - 31  | 7                               | 3 – 18   | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |
| Chlorate NL = 800               | µg/L  | 545                          | 6 - 1044 | 210                    | 66 - 377 | 213                    | 60 - 550 | 71                              | 20 - 110 | By-product of chlorine<br>disinfection             |  |
| Chloroform                      | µg/L  | 11                           | 1 – 44   | 9                      | 1 - 33   | 25                     | 1 – 97   | 11                              | 1 - 32   | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |
| Dibromoacetic Acid<br>(DBAA)    | µg/L  | 5                            | <1 - 15  | 5                      | <1 - 14  | 6                      | <1 - 15  | 4                               | 2-6      | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |
| Dibromochloromethane<br>(DBCM)  | µg/L  | 16                           | 4-34     | 13                     | 5 – 31   | 17                     | 3-64     | 14                              | 4 - 28   | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |
| Dichloroacetic Acid<br>(DCAA)   | µg/L  | 9                            | <1 - 25  | 9                      | <1 - 25  | 19                     | <1-85    | 6                               | <1 - 12  | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |
| Monobromoacetic Acid<br>(MBAA)  | µg/L  | 1                            | <1-4     | 1                      | <1-3     | 2                      | <1-4     | 1                               | <1-3     | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |
| Monochloroacetic Acid<br>(MCAA) | µg/L  | 2                            | <2-7     | 2                      | <2-6     | 5                      | <2 - 17  | <2                              | <2-5     | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |
| Trichloroacetic acid<br>(TCAA)  | µg/L  | 3                            | <1 - 10  | 3                      | <1 - 12  | 8                      | <1 - 58  | 4                               | <1 - 11  | By-product of chlorine/<br>chloramine disinfection |  |



# **Local Pump Station**

Fletcher Pump Station Additional chlorine is added before large pumps send the water to L.A. neighborhoods, east of Ivanhoe Reservoir



**About This Report** 

Contact Information

The 2010 Drinking Water Quality Report was prepared by the

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). This

report is required by the California Department of Public Health

(CDPH) and was prepared in accordance with CDPH guidelines.

It was prepared, printed and mailed to you at a cost of 35 cents.

LADWP, the largest municipal utility in the nation, was established

LADWP is governed by a five-member Board of Water and Power

Commissioners, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the

City Council. The Board meets regularly on the first and third

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

The meeting agenda is available to the public on the Thursday

For general information about LADWP, call 1-800-DIAL DWP

For questions regarding water quality, call the LADWP Water

Want to know more about your drinking water and related regulations?

prior to the week of the meeting. You can access the Board

agenda at www.ladwp.com or by calling (213) 367-1351.

Quality Customer Services Group at (213) 367-3182.

please call Mr. Nathan Aquayo at (213) 367-4941.

For more information about the NSF certification, call

For more information about CDPH certification, call

Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are held at:

111 North Hope Street, Room 1555H

Los Angeles, CA 90012-2694

(1-800-342-5397) or visit www.ladwp.com.

For questions regarding this report,

(800) 673-8010 or visit www.nsf.org.

(916) 449-5617 or visit www.cdph.ca.gov.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

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more than 100 years ago to provide a reliable and safe water and

electric supply to the City's 4 million residents and businesses.

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## This Message for Non-English Speaking Customers

This report contains important information about your drinking water. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact us at (800) 342-5397.

### Spanish

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su aqua potable. Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre este informe, por favor comuníquese con nosotros llamando al (800) 342-5397.

## Russian

В этом отчете содержится важная информация о вашей питьевой воде. Если у вас есть вопросы по этому отчету, вы можете позвонить по телефону (800) 342-5397. Farsi

این گزارش حاوی اطلاعات مهمی در مورد آب أشامیدنی شمااست. چنانچه سوّالی در مُوَرد آين كَزارش داريد لطفا بأ شماره تلفن 7و53-242 (800) با ما تماس بكيريد.

### Japanese

この報告書には皆さんの飲料水に関する重要な情報が含まれ ています。この報告書に関して何かご質問があれば(800) 342-5397 までお問い合わせください。

### **Armenian**

Այս զեկոյցը պարունակում է կարեւոր տեղեկութիւններ ձեր խմելու ջուրի մասին։ Այս խնդրի մասին որեւէ իարցում ունենալու պարագային կարող էք հեռածայնել մեզ՝ (800) 342-5397 http://www.upind.

### Arabio

يحتوي هذا التقرير على معلومات هامة عن مياه الشرب في لوس أنجلوس. إذا كان لديك أسنلة عن هذا التقرير نرجو الاتصال بنا على الرقم 342-5397 (800)

## Korean

이 보고서는 여러분의 수돗물에 관한 중요한 정보를 포함하고 있습니다. 이 보고서에 관해 질문이 있으시면, (800) 342-5397 로 연락 주십시오.

### Chinese

本報告包含有關您的飲用水的重要資訊,您對本報告如有任何疑問, 請致電:[800] 342-5397。

# Vietnamese

Báo cáo này có tin tức quan trọng về nguồn nước uống của quý vị. Nếu quý vị có thắc mắc về báo cáo này, xin liên lạc với chúng tôi tại số (800) 342-5397.

Thai

www.ladwp.com

www.cdph.ca.gov

www.epa.gov

รายงานนี้ประกอบด้วยข้อมูลสำคัญเกี่ยวกับน้ำดื่มของท่าน ้ถ้าหากท่านมีคำถามใดๆเกี่ยวกับรา้ยงานนี้ กรุณาติดต่อเราได้ที่ (800) 342-5397

methods, and steps you can take to water surfaces of Elysian and Ivanhoe minimize exposure is available from the Reservoirs. As a result, bromate levels Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead. have been consistently well below the current drinking water standard of 10 Pharmaceutical and **Personal Care Products** Very low levels of pharmaceutical

hours, you can minimize the potential

and personal care products (PPCPs) are increasingly being detected in include medicines, shampoos, soaps, detergents, lotions, and perfumes. government require LADWP to test for PPCPs. However, as a forward looking utility, LADWP conducts its own monitoring for these compounds.

treated waters for PPCPs. The amount of PPCPs detected was so minute that no adverse health effect from exposure has been reported. LADWP continues to study the issue with several other utilities and the Water Research Foundation. Customers can do their part by disposing of unwanted medications into a waste receptacle or by returning to a pharmacy-not down a toilet or drain

# The Journey Ends

Customers can further improve the filtration or by replacing older pipes, faucet fixtures, water heaters, water



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parts per billion.

Shade Balls Minimize

**Bromate in City Reservoirs** 

levels in open reservoirs, keeping

A creative short-term intervention

LADWP recently implemented was

the use of "shade balls" to decrease

the formation of Bromate. In 2008,

shade balls were used to shade the

In the long term, LADWP intends

to permanently cover or replace all

remaining uncovered reservoirs by

2022 as required by the LT2 regulation

(please see Safeguarding our Surface

served to our customers continues to

Water, page 4). Meanwhile, all water

meet all public health standards.

LADWP monitors lead contents in

source water and the distribution

of lead can cause serious health

problems, especially for pregnant

in drinking water is primarily from

materials and components associated

with home plumbing. The LADWP is

responsible for providing high quality

drinking water, but cannot control the

variety of materials used in plumbing

components. When your water has

been sitting in the pipes for several

women and young children. Lead

system and has not found detectable

amounts. If present, elevated levels

Lead Exposure from

**Plumbing Materials** 

LADWP continues to minimize bromate

them within regulatory requirements.

for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. This water can be collected and used to water plants. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing

U.S. drinking water supplies. PPCPs Currently, neither the state or federal

In 2009. LADWP tested its source and

At Home Treatment

taste of drinking water through chilling. softeners and water filters.

# Eric Holoman



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# A Quality Report 2010 Drinking Water Quality Report

Department of Water & Power

