

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Belen Water System has a level of Arsenic above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results from routine arsenic samples collected on 07/30/08, 10/21/08, 02/05/09, and 4/22/09 showed that water from Well 6 exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for arsenic. The standard for arsenic is 0.010 mg/L or 10 parts per billion (ppb) and is based on an annual running average of 4 consecutive quarterly samples. The running annual average arsenic level for 2008 monitored at Well #6 was 0.0232mg/L (23 ppb) which exceeded the MCL of 0.010 mg/L or 10 ppb.

### What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific *health concerns*, or have a compromised *immune system* you may consult your doctor.

### What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

### What happened? What is being done?

The arsenic in our water is from erosion of natural deposits. The Belen Water System will continue to post this arsenic public notice every 3 months as long as this MCL exceedence persists. Because we are a Community water system, removal of arsenic from our water is required.

The area in violation is not tied into the main water system in the city; this is a completely independent part of the system south of town in the industrial park.

The City of Belen is currently in the design phase of the arsenic system for the industrial park water system. Project completion is scheduled to be around March 2010 barring any major setbacks.

For more information, please contact

Robert Rimorin  
505-966-2735  
100 South Main  
Belen, NM 87002

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 doing business with your establishment, temporary workers or visitors, etc.). You can do this by posting this notice in public places and distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Belen Water System

System # NM 35 249 32

Address 100 South Main, Belen, NM 87002 Phone 505-966-2735

Method Used To Distribute: Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Posted \_\_\_\_\_ Hand Delivery  Other City web site

Signed by Robert Rimorin

Dated: 07/02/09