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PUBLIC NOTICE

Tontitown Waterworks is a public water system subject to regulation under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Those regulations require the notification of customers whenever a violation occurs, and is the basis for this notice.

The annual average of quarterly samples of the level of total trihalomethanes, a disinfection by-product, in the water exceeded the maximum contaminant level of 80 parts per billion for the period from April 2020 through June 2020. The average level in your water for site #566YD001, 566YD002 this period was 87, 81 ppb.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets national standards for drinking water and has established the maximum level for Total Trihalomethanes at 80 micrograms per liter. Trihalomethanes are a group of by-product chemicals which are formed by the use of chlorine in the treatment of drinking water. Disinfectants such as chlorine react with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter present in water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts (DBP's). EPA has determined that a number of DBP's are a health concern at certain levels of exposure.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have increased risk of getting cancer. EPA has set standards to limit exposure to trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids and other DBP's.

The Arkansas Department of Health has advised the water system that there is no immediate health risk from consuming the water. Failure to meet this requirement does not mean that the water is unsafe or that alternate sources of water should be used.

The water system has performed an evaluation to ensure that there were no issues with the treatment or delivery of your drinking water during this time period. The reason for the higher than normal level is a result of a high reading for the samples collected in the third quarter of 2019. Those results are included in the running average that uses results from the three previous quarters.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice contact James Clark, Tontitown Public Works Director at 479-361-2700, or the Engineering Section of the Department of Health at 501-661-2623.

Information of drinking water can be obtained from the Engineering Section at 501-661-2623 and on the health effects of Trihalomethanes from the Epidemiology Section at 501-280-4186.