

PWS ID# 3003303

**301 N 1st Street
Altus AFB, OK 73521**

9 Jun 14

Re: 2013 Annual Water Quality Report
(Consumer Confidence Report)

Dear Water Customer:

Altus Air Force Base purchases water from the City of Altus and provides safe drinking water to your homes. Attachment 1 from the City of Altus water system and the table below show the quality of your water. We are required to collect and test bacteria, disinfection by-products, lead, and copper samples in addition to those already tested by the City of Altus. No bacteria were detected in the samples collected in 2013. Lead and copper sampling has been changed to a 3 year rotation and, therefore, no samples were taken in 2013.

Altus AFB Monitoring period of January 1st thru December 31st, 2013						
Microbiological Monitoring Results						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Range Detected	Highest Level Reported	MCL ¹	MCLG ²	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (5 per month)	N	N/A	0	5%	0	Naturally present in the environment
Non-biological Monitoring Results						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Range Detected	Highest Level Reported	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (mg/L)	Y	0.144 - 0.279	0.189 Highest Quarterly Average	0.080	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Halo Acetic Acids (mg/L)	N	<0.006 – 0.071	0.055 Highest Quarterly Average	0.060	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

1-Maximum Contaminant Level – highest level of contaminant allowed in drinking water

2-Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – level below which there is no known or expected health risk

In addition to the above testing, Altus AFB is required to comply with the disinfection by-product rule (DBPR). The requirement will be a rolling 4-quarter average which must not exceed either the Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) limit of 0.080 mg/L or the Halo Acetic Acid (HAA) limit of 0.060 mg/L. Altus AFB began sampling TTHMs in the 1st Quarter of 2013. Altus Air Force Base went into violation of the DBPR beginning the 2nd Quarter of 2013. Altus Air Force Base purchases our water from the City of Altus and does not treat the water further. The City of Altus has been working to address the problem of elevated TTHM levels which have increased due to historically high water demands, drought, and high water temperature. The City of Altus has pending upgrades to their treatment plant which should decrease the TTHM levels. Additionally, Altus AFB is reviewing our own treatment options to address the TTHM concerns. We will continue monitoring TTHM levels until the constituent is mitigated to acceptable levels.

For additional information regarding our local water supply, see Attachment 1 for summary sample results for the City of Altus 2013 Consumer Confidence Report. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your water, please contact Bioenvironmental Engineering at (580) 481-5494.

Sincerely,


MEGAN M. BATTEN, Capt, USAF, BSC, CIH
Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight Commander

2 Attachments:

1. City of Altus Annual Water Quality Report
2. 2nd Quarter 2014 Notice of Violation

Attachment 1

City of Altus Public Water System I.D. 1011501 Annual Water Quality Report 2013

We're pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we provide. We want you to be aware of our continuing efforts to improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Our goal is to provide a safe, high quality and dependable supply of drinking water. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. Our primary water source is The Mountain Park Conservancy District, which provides untreated water from Tom Steed Reservoir. The reservoir is located in southern Kiowa County approximately six miles north of Snyder, Oklahoma. Our emergency source of water is the Altus Reservoir, which is recharged from Lake Lugert-Altus located in eastern Greer and northwestern Kiowa County approximately 18 miles north of Altus. Both reservoirs are classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as "surface water sources". The Mountain Park Conservancy District has a source water protection plan with a copy available at our office that shows the vulnerability of our source water as HIGH. Additional information such as potential sources of contamination is listed. This plan is available for public view upon written request submitted to the office of Public Works at 509 S. Main, Altus OK 73521.

This report indicates the quality of our water and what it means to you.

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

If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Gene Leister, Water Treatment Supervisor at 481-2270. We want all our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the city council chambers.

Altus Water Treatment personnel routinely monitor the drinking water for constituents according to Federal and State laws. The table below shows results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2013. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. **It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.**

In the table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - a nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

City of Altus Public Water Supply 2013 Lab Results I.D. # OK1011501

All test results expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/L)

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Highest Level Detected	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
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Microbiological Contaminants

Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0		5 %	0	Naturally present in the environment
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Turbidity (NTU)	No	TT=0.27 NTU Less than 0.3 NTU's in 100% of monthly samples.	0.02-0.27	TT=5 NTU TT=Less than 0.3 NTU's in 95% of monthly samples	N/A	Soil runoff
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Volatile Organic Contaminates

TTHM (Total trihalomethanes (ppm))	Yes	.183 Highest quarterly avg.	.091-.279	.080	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
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THAA5 (Total haloacetic acids (ppm))	No	.032 Highest quarterly avg.	.003-.057	.060	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
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Inorganics Contaminates

Chlorites (ppm)	No	.54	.0-.54	1.0	0.8	Additive used to control microbes
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Fluoride (ppm)	No	.64	0.13-.64	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
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Nitrate (ppm) (as Nitrogen)	No	.45	.45-.45	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits.
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Control of DBP precursors TOC (Avg. Yearly Ratio)	Yes	.58	.55-.84	Minimum removal ratio 1.0	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
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Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminate monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Contaminants	Average for the year	Range of detections	Likely source of contamination
Chlorate	.406	.360-.476	Disinfection By-Product.
Chromium, Hexavalent	.000063	0-.000117	Industrial By-Product. Stainless steel, textile dye, wood preservation, etc...
Chromium	.000456	0-.000694	Industrial By-Product. Stainless steel and chrome plating.
Molybdenum	.00368	.00302-.00422	Industrial By-Product. Steel alloys and armor plating.
Strontium	.609	.535-.686	Naturally found in the environment.
Vanadium	.0076	.00520-.011	Compounds of vanadium found naturally in the environment.
Bromochloromethane	.000061	0-.000061	Used in fire extinguishers until 1969. Production was banned January 1, 2002.

What does this mean?

This table shows our system had two violations during the year. The violations were for exceeding the Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) limit of 80 ppb, Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal requirement of at least 25%.

TTHM/TOC violation

What happened?

The drinking water produced during the past 12 months has had elevated levels of THMs above the established EPA standard. The cause is primarily attributable to deterioration of key components of the treatment process. Additionally the THM problem has been extremely difficult to successfully treat during the past 12-18 months due to higher than normal organic carbon levels caused by current drought conditions. Plans for both interim and permanent corrective measures include substantial alterations to the treatment plant as well as making major repairs and replacement of critical equipment and processes are underway. These improvements are planned to achieve environmental compliance in the near future.

Total Organic Carbon has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include Trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the maximum contaminate level (MCL) may lead to adverse health effects to the liver, kidney or nervous system and may lead to an increased risk of cancer.

The noted violations did not pose an immediate risk. If they had, you would have been notified immediately. However, 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 an increased risk of cancer.

What is being done?

- Lower disinfection levels as practical.
- Intensify surveys of distribution system for potential problem areas, e.g., poor circulation, dead ends, etc.
- Inspection and possible cleaning of finished water storage facilities.
- Continue working with our engineering consultant to design additions, repairs and alterations to the plant to bring finished water quality back into and maintain compliance going forward.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

**Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from agricultural, livestock operations, wildlife, sewage treatment plants and septic systems,.

**Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

**Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally occurring.

**Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

*** MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water everyday at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer and undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we continually make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. We appreciate your support and understanding. For more information, please contact Gene Leister, Water Treatment Plant Supervisor, at 481-2270. Written inquiries should be addressed to City of Altus, Attn: Gene Leister 509 S. Main, Altus, Oklahoma 73521

* Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality Guidance dated 26 March, 2008.

Attachment 2

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Altus Air Force Base Has Violated a Drinking Water Standard

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct the situation.

Testing results we received for **July 2013 through June 2014** show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for total trihalomethanes. The standard or MCL for total trihalomethanes is 0.080 mg/l. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. The level of total trihalomethanes averaged at our system's locations was **0.188 and 0.101 mg/l**.

What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, people with an infant, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified immediately.

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 an increased risk of getting cancer.

What is being done?

The City of Altus is working to complete renovations to the current water treatment system, which will provide Altus Air Force Base with reduced levels of TTHMs. The City of Altus hopes to have all renovations completed by February 2016.

Altus Air Force Base has also hired an engineering firm to help investigate ways that the base can improve this situation and evaluate alternative water sources.

We anticipate resolving the problem by February 29, 2016

For more information, please contact Megan Batten at (580) 481-5494 or 301 N. 1st St Altus AFB, OK 73523

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 Altus Air Force Base. State Water System ID#: OK3003303.

Date distributed: 5/27/2014.