

# City of El Centro

## 2015 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

**Este reporte contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua de beber.  
Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda.**

We are pleased to present to you this year's Water Quality Report. Our water source is the Colorado River via the All American Canal and facilities of the Imperial Irrigation District. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

If you have any questions about your water utility or this report, please contact **Hector Muñoz**, Water Treatment Facility Supervisor at **(760) 337-4575**. We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more about your City services, you are welcome to attend any of the regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at the El Centro City Council Chambers located at 1275 Main Street, El Centro, California.

The El Centro Water Treatment Facility routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31, 2015

In this report you will find many unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - One part per million compares to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$ 10,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µ/l)** - One part per billion compares to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$ 10,000,000.

**Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/l)** - One part per trillion compares to one minute in two million years, or a single penny in \$ 10,000,000,000.

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

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

**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 allow for a margin of safety.

**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.

**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 PHGs or MCLGs as is economically or technologically feasible using the best available treatment technology. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

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

**N/A**-Not Applicable

**NL** - Notification Level

**Secondary Drinking Water Standard (SDWS)** - Secondary standards are in place to establish an acceptable aesthetic quality of the water.

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

We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

Primary Drinking Water Standard								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	Unit of Measure	MCL	PHG	MCLG	Likely source of contamination
<b>GENERAL PHYSICAL ANALYSIS</b>								
Apparent Color	None	7.5	N/A	Color Units	15	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring - organic metals
Odor Threshold	None	3	N/A	TON	3	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring - organic metals
Turbidity	None	16	N/A	NTU	5	N/A	N/A	Soil Runoff
<b>GENERAL CHEMICAL ANALYSIS</b>								
Alkalinity	None	160	N/A	ppm		N/A	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Biocarbonate (HCO3)	None	190	N/A	ppm		N/A	N/A	Generally found in surface water.
Chloride	None	130	N/A	ppm	500	N/A	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (E.C.)	None	1200	N/A	umhos/cm	1600	N/A	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Fluoride	None	0.42	N/A	mg/L	2	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth' discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Ph (lab)	None	8.1	6.5-8.5	Ph units		N/A	N/A	Generally found in surface water.
Sulfate	None	320	N/A	ppm	500	N/A	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial influence
Total Filterable Residue (TDS)	None	770	N/A	mg/L	1000	N/A	N/A	
<b>METALS</b>								
Arsenic	None	2.4	N/A	ug/L	10	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; electronic production waste
Barium	None	120	N/A	ug/L	1000	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits;
Boron	None	200	N/A	ug/L		N/A	N/A	Runoff/ leaching from natural
Magnesium	None	31	N/A	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits;
Potassium	None	5.0	N/A	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits;
Sodium	None	120	N/A	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Generally found in surface water.
Aluminum	None	190	N/A	ug/L	200	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits;
Calcium	None	84	N/A	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits.
Iron	None	180	N/A	ug/L	300	N/A	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits.
<b>Anion / Cation Balance</b>								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	Unit of Measure	MCL	PHG	MCLG	Likely source of contamination
Hardness, Total (as CaCO3)	None	340	N/A	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Total Anions	None	13.5	N/A	meq/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Erosion from natural deposits
Total Cations	None	12.1	N/A	meq/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Erosion from natural deposits
% difference	None	11	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	
<b>RADIOLOGICAL CONSTITUENTS</b>								
Gross Alpha	None	2.8	N/A	pCi/L	15	N/A	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	None	2.9	N/A	pCi/L	20	0.43	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING TREATMENT OF SURFACE WATER SOURCES:</b>								
Treatment Technique (Type of approved filtration technology used)				Rapid gravity dual media filters.				
Turbidity Performance Standard (that must be met through the water treatment process)				Turbidity of the Filtered water must: 1 - Be less than or equal to .3 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 - Not to exceed 1.0 NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 - Not exceed 5.0 NTU at any time				
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.				100%				
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year				0.14				
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements				0				
Contaminant	Samples Collected	90th Percentile Level Detected	Number of samples over the action L.	Unit of Measure	Action Level	PHG	MCLG	Likely source of contamination
Copper 8/14/2015	31	0.054	0	ppm	1.3	0.3	Secondary Standard	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead 8/14/2015	31	ND	0	ppb	15	0.2	N/A	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
	Violation Y/N	Average	Units	Range	MCL			
Treated Aluminum	Y	191	ppb	72-310	200	N/A	N/A	Erosions of natural deposits.

ORGANIC CHEMICALS CONSTITUENTS								
Total Trihalomethanes	None	58	39.6-77.1	ppb	80	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	None	23	13.1-33	ppb	60	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination

DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA								
Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria			
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	0		0				Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli	0	0		0				Human and animal fecal waste

***If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. El Centro Water Plant 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 for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.***

Water systems are required to meet a strict standard for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If the standard is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the risk of possible health effects described for regulated contaminants, you should know that a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the maximum contaminant 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 and drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer 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 at 1-800-426-4791.**

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

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

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

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

**Pesticides/Herbicides :**

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

**The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) sets drinking water standards and requires the disinfection of drinking water. However, when used in the treatment of drinking water, disinfectants react with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter present in water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts (DBPs). State Board has determined that a number of DBPs, including some trihalomethanes (THMs) and some haloacetic acids (HAAs), have been shown to cause cancer in laboratory animals. Other DBPs have been shown to affect the liver and the nervous system, and cause reproductive or development effects in laboratory animals. Exposure to certain DBPs may produce similar effects in people. State Board has set standards to limit exposure to THMs, HAAs, and other DBPs.**

**Discussion of Vulnerability**

This source is considered most vulnerable to these activities, for which no associated contaminant has been detected:

Concentrated animal feeding operations

Agricultural activities such as pesticide use and farm chemical distribution

Mining

Geothermal wells

Landfills/dumps

Illegal dumping

If you have any questions regarding this report please contact Hector Munoz, Water Plant Supervisor at 760-337-4575.







