



Lahontan Region

2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe, California 96150
(530) 542-5400 • Fax (530) 544-2271
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan>

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Contact: Harold Singer
(530) 721-1151

Regional Water Board Tests Show Limited Perchlorate Contamination In Barstow Residential Wells

Barstow, CA – Groundwater in a limited area of Barstow that serves individual wells contains perchlorate above the California drinking water standard (maximum contaminant level or MCL). Property owners with wells in an area between I-15, the Mojave River, Old Highway 58 and Leona Road will receive individual notification if their wells have been tested for perchlorate. Contamination above the MCL has been found in two residential wells on River Road, south of Poplar Street. No other residential wells tested show perchlorate contamination.

The CA Department of Public Health has determined that the water being provided by Golden State Water is safe.

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) has evaluated the results of analysis of 26 representative private wells in the vicinity of the public water supply wells that caused the now rescinded “Do Not Drink” alert for customers of Golden State Water Company. Based on the latest test results, it appears the perchlorate groundwater contamination is currently limited to the area mentioned above.

Based on these limited results, groundwater in areas surrounding the affected area shown in the attachment is likely not contaminated with perchlorate.

The Water Board, with the assistance of federal, state and local entities, has initiated an investigation of the former Mojave River Pyrotechnics Company as a potential source of the perchlorate contamination. This company ceased operation in the mid 1980’s. The location of this operation provides additional evidence that private wells outside of the area described above are not likely contaminated with perchlorate.

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board’s mission is to preserve, enhance and restore California’s water resources and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.