

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

LEVELS OF TURBIDITY ABOVE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS FOR Lowell Water Department August 26, 2014

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, water you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. The results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets EPA's health standards. Our August 26, 2014 results showed turbidity levels exceeding 1.0 turbidity units (NTU's) this is above the maximum level of 1.0 NTU permitted by the Rule. Because of these high levels of turbidity, there was an increased chance that the water may have contained disease-causing organisms.

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

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 immediately. Individuals with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and the elderly may be more susceptible to waterborne disease in general, and they or their caretakers should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of the symptoms described above and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What Happened? What is being done? Explain below the reason, corrective action, and when the system expects to be or was back in compliance.

A pilot study was being conducted at the treatment plant in an attempt to reduce the turbidities prior to entering the filters. On August 26th a spike in turbidity levels occurred causing an exceedance in the standards. The pilot study was immediately suspended.

We anticipate resolving the problem within 24 hours.

For more information, please contact Daniel Myers, Water Superintendent, at 219-696-5050, or 501 E. Main Street, Lowell, IN 46356

Please share this information with all 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 by mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Lowell Water Department PWSID#IN5245029