



What are the facts about hexavalent chromium-6?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets a nationwide standard for drinking water quality referred to as "Maximum Contaminant Level" (MCL). The current Federal limit for all types of chromium is 100 parts per billion (PPB). This includes hexavalent chromium (chromium-6). The current California MCL, which is not an EPA adopted nationwide standard, is much lower at 10 PPB. The lower 10 PPB MCL is roughly the equivalent of a teaspoon in an Olympic-sized pool. Glendale's water in its distribution system is already at or below the California MCL.

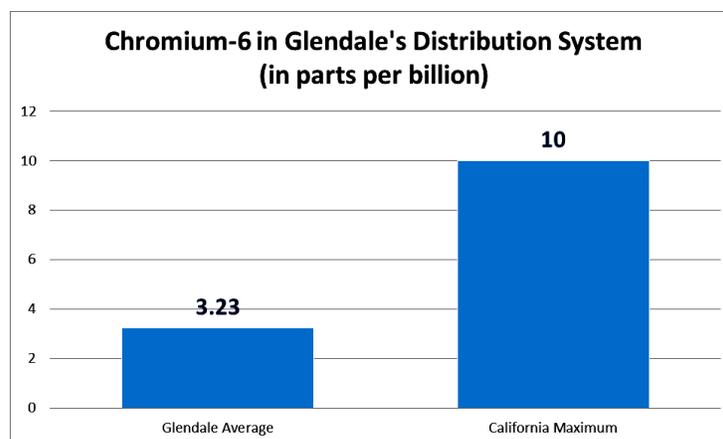
The chromium level used in the September 2016 Environmental Working Group report of 0.02 PPB is not an adopted limit and is a California "public health goal" that was used in 2011 as part of the process that resulted in the final California MCL of 10 PPB. The California number of 0.02 PPB is not an EPA "goal." It is not a level that any city in Arizona or elsewhere has been directed to achieve.

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that once every five years, the EPA issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems such as Glendale's. The "Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule" (UCMR 3), required monitoring for the 30 contaminants between 2013 and 2015 using analytical methods developed by EPA. This monitoring provides a basis for future EPA regulatory actions to protect public health. The data used by the Environmental Working Group's report was collected as part of the UCMR 3. The results of that Federal 2013-2015 study are still being evaluated by the EPA and will be used to evaluate whether the current Federal MCL should be reduced.

Glendale, along with other cities in the Valley, was aware that in June of 2014 California set an MCL of 10 PPB which is well below the current Federal standard. Municipal utilities like Glendale anticipated that the EPA would follow a similar course and reduce the national standard. Glendale's capital improvement program has funding for improvements to our wells, distribution system and our treatment plants. If the EPA does change the regulatory requirements for hexavalent chromium, our capital improvement program will allow us to have the flexibility to react appropriately.

In the meantime, residents should know that hexavalent chromium levels in the Glendale water distribution system are already at or below the lower California MCL and the water in Glendale is safe for drinking.

Below is what was found during the latest round of UCMR testing. In 2015, Glendale Water Services supplied around 83% surface water and 17% groundwater to its customers, all of which is blended in our distribution system; the distribution system data represents the water our customers receive in their homes.



Glendale water meets or exceeds ALL Environmental Protection Agency standards for drinking water.

Please contact Glendale Water Services at (623) 930-4177, if you would like to know more.