



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH
2385 WAIMANO HOME ROAD
ULUAKUPU BLDG. 4
PEARL CITY, HI 96782

In reply, please refer to:
File: SDWB
Molokai Community Plan01.docx

January 29, 2018

Ms. Kelly T. King, Chair
Planning Committee
County Council
County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

RECEIVED
2018 FEB -2 PM 2:43
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL

Dear Ms. King:

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO MOLOKA`I COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE (PC-2)
LETTER, DATED JANUARY 19, 2018

The Department of Health (DOH), Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) received your letter, dated January 19, 2018, and provides the following responses:

1. **Question:** *Are any of the statements inaccurate?*

Answer: Yes.

A. Existing Conditions - Water

The water supplied to the West End of Moloka`i is regulated by DOH/SDWB as the Maunaloa-Kaluakoi (PWS 231) water system. As of December 26, 2017, the ground water for this water system is pumped from Well 17, disinfected with chlorine and conveyed to the Maunaloa and Kaluakoi communities through a series of closed pipelines, tanks and pump stations. Kualapu`u Reservoir and the Moloka`i Irrigation System (MIS) surface water are no longer being utilized.

If there is an extended outage at Well 17, Moloka`i Ranch may use surface water from the east Moloka`i mountains and treat it through the Ranch's Pu`u Nana Water Treatment Plant. This is an emergency mode of operation.

DOH/SDWB cannot comment on the accuracy of any agreement or contracts between Moloka`i Ranch and the County of Maui.

Between 2013-2017, the Maunaloa-Kaluakoi (PWS 231) water system has received three (3) Tier 2 violations for exceeding the maximum contaminant level

(MCL) for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs). A violation of the MCL occurs when the Locational Running Annual Average at a sample point exceeds 80 micrograms per liter (ug/L). Following each of the violations, Moloka'i Ranch provided the required public notification to their customers and took steps to reduce TTHM concentrations. These steps included a flushing program to reduce water age, increased testing of TTHMs, purchase of a benchtop TTHM analyzer, conversion of the Maunaloa-Kaluakoi water system to groundwater and replacement of the Maunaloa 3.0 Million Gallon Reservoir.

The Maunaloa-Kaluakoi water system has met all other Federal and State drinking water standards, which cover over 90 bacteriological and chemical contaminants.

Affordability of water is a subjective measurement. DOH/SDWB encourages all drinking water utilities to recover all operational costs through rates for long-term sustainable finances to support the delivery of safe drinking water. However, DOH/SDWB does not regulate utility rates. Please contact Moloka'i Ranch or the Public Utilities Commission for further information on the rate structures for the West End of Moloka'i.

C. Goal, Policies, Actions

Regarding Policy 9, DOH/SDWB will not test for contaminants at residential faucets. DOH/SDWB's jurisdiction ends at the customer's water meter. Generally, this is also the end of the water utility's responsibility. DOH/SDWB will work with Moloka'i Ranch to take additional water quality samples in the water system if warranted based on elevated contaminant concentrations and/or potential contaminating activities.

2. **Question:** *Do you have any information on the quality of drinking water supplied to the West End of Moloka'i?*

Answer: Yes. All regulatory compliance sample results are maintained by DOH/SDWB. The Maunaloa-Kaluakoi (PWS 231) water system is currently in compliance with all Federal and State drinking water regulations. In addition, under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, Moloka'i Ranch is required to provide their customers with an annual water quality report. The next report must be provided to their customers by June 30, 2018, and will include all water quality testing conducted in 2017. The 2016 water quality report is enclosed.

If you would like specific water quality results, please provide a list of contaminants and a date range and DOH/SDWB will provide the requested information.

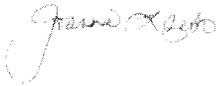
Ms. Kelly T. King
January 29, 2018
Page 3

3. **Question:** *Do you have any other comments on the proposed language?*

Answer: No.

If there are any questions, please call me at (808) 586-4258.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joanna L. Seto".

JOANNA L. SETO, P.E., CHIEF
Safe Drinking Water Branch

JN:cb

Enclosure: Maunaloa, Molokai, Hawaii 2016 Annual Water Quality Report

Maunaloa
Maunaloa, Molokai, Hawaii
2016 Annual Water-Quality Report

The Safe Drinking water Act (SDWA) requires that utilities issue an annual "Consumer Confidence Report" to its customers in addition to other notices that may be required by law. This report gives you information where the water comes from, what it contains, and any risks our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent. Molokai Public Utilities (MPU) is committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water supply. For more information call MPU at (808)552-2395.

The bottom line: Is the water safe to drink? The answer is Yes.

Call us for information about the water system and services provided. We are here to serve you. You may e-mail our Utility Manager at sreyes@molokairanch.com.

Overview

Our mission is to provide safe and sufficient water for our customers needs. The water quality report is a reflection of the hard work provided by MPU. We have upgraded our treatment facility to comply with State and Federal EPA standards.

Water Source

As of September 2005 the water provided to you is supplied by a blended source. One source is from Well #17, through the Molokai Irrigation System surface water system. The second source is from the Molokai Ranch surface water mountain system. Both sources are blended at Puu Nana then treated at the new 1.5 mgd water treatment plant. After treatment at Puu Nana, the water flows by gravity to the Maunaloa 3 mg reservoir then continues by gravity to the Kaluakoi water system.

As of September 2005, MPU has met all standards of the Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR) treatment technique requirements. Improvements of the system and treatment has been finalized and approved by the State Department Health on September 14, 2005.

For the year 2008, the Kaluakoi Water System is in compliance with Trihalomethane (THM), and Haoacetic Acids (HAA5) Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). Following this upgrade, we are now operating within the compliance levels.

A Source Water Assessent Plan (SWAP) has been completed. If you want to view any of the documents please feel free to call Waiola O Molokai Inc. at 552-2395.

An Explanation of the Water-Quality Data Table

The table shows the results of our water-quality analyses. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even in minute traces, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health, the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, footnotes explaining our findings, and a key to units of measurement. Definitions of MCL and MCLG are important. Detected unregulated contaminants for which monitoring is required will also be listed in this report.

Definitions

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: 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.

Key To Table

AL	Action Level
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

NA Not Applicable

Water Quality Data Table

Contaminant Level	Date Collected	Unit	MCL	MCL G	Range	Average	Major Sources	Violation
Disinfection By-Products								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	2016	ppb	80	NA	29-67.70	52.12	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination	No
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)	2016	ppb	60	NA	2.40-27.10	14.27	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination	No

Lead and Copper

Contaminant	AL	MCLG	your water*	Range	# of Samples Exceeding AL	Violation	Typical source
Lead (ppb)	15	0	ND<2.5	ND-22.6	1	NO	Erosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0425	ND-0.06	0	NO	Erosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits

*: It is the 90th Percentile Value. Tests were conducted on 2015.

Water-Quality Table Footnotes

Detected Level Description: The surface water treatment plant product water has met all DOH and EPA regulations, but additional monitoring and control of TTHMs is required.

Unregulated contaminants are monitored by the DOH to track potential contamination of our resources. These do not have an MCL established by the EPA.

Required Additional Health Information

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 Environmental Protection Agency'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 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 include:

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

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

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

(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

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

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Lead- specific health information.

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. Molokai Public Utilities 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 can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>."

National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance

This report was prepared by Molokai Public Utilities, 1-808-552-2395. We'll be happy to answer any questions about service and our water quality. For more information, call Molokai Public Utilities at 808-552-2395. Water Quality Data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at www.waterdata.com.

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2016. All water systems were required to comply with the Total Coliform Rule from 1989 to March 31, 2016, and began compliance with a new rule, the Revised Total Coliform Rule on April 1, 2016. The new rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbial (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection under the new rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under the new rule there is no longer a monthly maximum contamination level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the new rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the public water system.