



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Environmental Quality

Alan Matheson
Executive Director

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER
Marie Owens, P.E.
Director

March 14, 2017

American Fork City Public Works
C/O Jay Brems
270 East 200 North
American Fork, Utah 84003

Re: Results of sampling of the drinking water system in American Fork City

Dear Mr. Brems:

In response to your recent request, the Division of Drinking Water has reviewed the results of the sampling of the American Fork City drinking water system in the aftermath of the Tibble Fork Dam sediment release in late August and September, 2016. Based on these results, it is the opinion of the Division that the levels of lead in the springs used as a source of drinking water and in the distribution system itself do not pose a threat to the public health and are within natural background for your area.

American Fork City is required to sample for lead and copper from homeowners taps. Thirty samples are required every three years. American Fork City last tested for lead and copper in September 2016. Lead and Copper compliance is based off of the 90th percentile result. There is no maximum contaminant level (MCL) for lead or copper. Compliance with lead and copper samples is determined by comparing the 90th percentile result with the Action Level (AL- the level at which action must be taken to address the contaminant if more than 10% of the results taken in any one monitoring round exceed the AL) of 0.015 mg/L for lead and 1.3 mg/L for copper.

For American Fork's 2016 sampling, which occurred approximately one month after the Tibble Fork Dam sediment release, the 90th percentile result was 0.0012 mg/L for Lead and 0.0743 mg/L for Copper. American Fork's 90th percentile results are significantly below the Action Level. No homes exceeded either Action Level.

Additionally, please note that that American Fork's lead and copper tap sample results are very similar to their last sampling event's 90th percentiles. When American Fork sampled in 2013, the 90th percentile was 0.106 mg/L for copper and 0.0025 mg/L.

Generally, lead is considered to be due to plumbing and piping inside the houses and not from upstream source contamination. The major source of lead in drinking water is typically corrosion of household plumbing systems. Lead can leach into water from pipes, solder, fixtures, faucets (brass), and fittings.

Year of Sampling	Lead 90th Percentile (mg/L)	Copper 90th Percentile (mg/L)
2016	0.0012	0.0743
2013	0.0025	0.106
2010	0.0023	0.0912
2007	0.003	0.151
2004	0.001	0.003
2001	0.003	0.1
1996	0.005	0.01
1995	0.005	0.194
1994	0.005	0.175

The Division is aware that there has been concern from select citizens about the 0.0007 mg/L sample result for lead taken at the Power House Spring on August 30, 2016. Of the water samples collected from the Timp Cave Camp and Power House Springs in August and September, 2016, only two of six samples contained detectable amounts of lead. The trace amounts of lead detected in the two remaining samples are significantly below the EPA’s Action Level and are considered to be within natural background levels.

Additionally, American Fork sampled for inorganic and metal constituents at the Timp Cave Camp and Power House Springs in the days and weeks following the sediment release. Inorganic and metal constituents have Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) set by EPA. The samples taken at the springs showed constituent levels of twenty-one different metals and inorganic analytes that were significantly below their respective MCLs.

EPA requires all community water systems to prepare and deliver an annual consumer confidence report (CCR) (sometimes called a water quality report) for their customers by July 1 of each year. American Fork’s CCR will list important water quality data regarding regulated contaminants found in your local drinking water. This report includes American Fork’s 90th percentile lead and copper values and the number of samples exceeding the Action Level during the last round of sampling. American Fork’s 2015 CCR can be found on the city’s website: afc.city.org/262/Water.

There is no water that is perfectly pure. All sources of drinking water are potential have constituents that are naturally occurring. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. The presence of these constituents does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about constituents and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

We appreciate your request and look forward to assisting you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marie Owens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "O".

Marie Owens, P. E., Director
Utah Division of Drinking Water

MO:ko,ef

Cc: Bryce Larsen, Utah County Health Department