

Background Info on Chromium 6

- Heavy Metal water contaminant with potential cancer risk
- Occurs both naturally and as manufacturing waste
- Found in paints, dyes, plating, welding, other mfg processes
- Famous from Erin Brockovich movie (at much higher levels)
- Detected in over 2,300 drinking water sources in CA (2013)
- US EPA MCL = 100ppb, Canada MCL = 100ppb
- CA current MCL = 50ppb
- CA proposed MCL = 10ppb
- CA attempted 10ppb previously (2014), was sued and lost
- New MCL out for public comment now
- If implemented, ~4 year timeline for small water company compliance

SC County Small Water Systems Affected by Chromium 6

System Name	System Type	Connections	Location	Disadvantage d Community?	Chromium-6 Detection Level/Range (ppb)
Alianza Charter School/Watsonville Charter School of the Arts	Nontransient-Noncommunity	N/A	115 Casserly Rd, Watsonville	Yes	0.82-11
Aptos High School	Nontransient-Noncommunity	N/A	100 Mariner Way, Aptos	Yes (Potentially)	9.5
Aptos Ridge Mutual Water Company	Community	16	Aptos Ridge Circle, Watsonville	No	28-32
Buena Vista Migrant Center	Community	135	113 Tierra Alta Dr, Watsonville	Yes	12-16
Cassin Ranch (Driscoll's)	Nontransient-Noncommunity	N/A	151 Silliman Rd, Watsonville	No	14-18
Crestwood Heights Water Association	Community	45	Kingston Dr, Watsonville	Yes	9.4
Monterey Bay Academy	Community	48	783 San Andreas Rd, Watsonville	No	16-22
Renaissance High School	Nontransient-Noncommunity	N/A	11 Spring Valley Dr, Watsonville	Yes	21
San Andreas Mutual Water Company	Community	135	166 Palm View Ln, Watsonville	No	10-19 (3 wells)

Small Water Company Chromium 6 Treatment Options

- Consolidate with larger water company
 - Very Expensive (\$5-10M for SAMWAC)
 - Politically difficult
 - Will take time and approvals
- Treat at Source
 - Possible to convert to CrO₃ and remove precipitate
 - Expensive (~\$500K-1M Capital cost plus ongoing)
 - Hazardous waste disposal issue
 - Will also take time to implement
- Treat at Point Of Use (POU) drinking tap
 - reverse osmosis or similar under sink systems
 - one time and install cost ~\$1,000 per connection
 - \$200-300 annual cost for cartridge replacement
 - legal/liability issues for water company

Summary of Chromium 6 for SC County Small Water Companies

- Proposed State MCL at 10ppb affects ~ 10 small water cos in County (and several larger ones)
- Current proposal prioritizes consolidation, then treatment at source, then POU treatment
- If new MCL approved, small water will have ~ 4 years to comply
- Compliance will be very expensive for small water companies
- Small water companies will need financial and operational help