



**FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION**

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## **DIBROMOCHLOROPROPANE (DBCP) NOTICE**

### **SUBJECT: DIBROMOCHLOROPROPANE (DBCP) CONTAMINATION IN YOUR WATER SUPPLY**

Sampling of your water well has confirmed the presence of **Dibromochloropropane (DBCP)** at a concentration that exceeds the State of California Department of Public Health (CDPH) maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.0002 parts per million (ppm). CDPH sets drinking water standards and has determined that DBCP is a health concern at certain levels of exposure. This organic chemical was once a popular pesticide. When soil and climatic conditions are favorable, DBCP may get into drinking water by runoff into surface water or by leaching into ground water. This chemical has been shown to cause cancer in laboratory animals such as rats and mice when the animals are exposed at high levels over their lifetimes. Chemicals that cause cancer in laboratory animals also may increase the risk of cancer in humans who are exposed over long periods of time. CDPH has set the drinking water standard for DBCP at 0.0002 ppm to reduce the risk of cancer or other adverse health effects which have been observed in laboratory animals. Drinking water that meets the CDPH standard is associated with little to none of this risk and is considered safe with respect to DBCP.

A DBCP fact sheet is attached for your use. The consumption of water with DBCP exceeding the established MCL should be avoided. Therefore, it is recommended that you use bottled water for drinking and cooking purposes until an uncontaminated water supply is provided. Potential solutions include a replacement well or installation of a granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration treatment system at the well to remove DBCP from the well water prior to it entering your residence.

For more information, please contact your family physician or the Fresno County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division at (559) 445-3357.