2023 City of Elko Water Quality Report
NV0000272

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality and covers the time period of January 1, 2023-December 31, 2023; and in a few instances the most recent data from 2019 through 2022. During this time, we sampled and performed analysis for several hundred contaminants. The City of Elko Water Department is complying with EPA's action level requirements for the contaminant above the MCL and is later discussed in this report.

THE CITY OF ELKO WATER DEPARTMENT TAKES A GREAT DEAL OF PRIDE IN THE QUALITY OF WATER THEY DELIVER TO YOU, OUR CONSUMER.

Do I need to take special precautions?
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than 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/Centers for Disease Control (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).

Where does my water come from?
The City of Elko water comes from 17 wells, which pump water from the underground aquifer referred to as the Elko Segment of the Humboldt River Basin.

Source water assessment and its availability
A source water assessment was completed in 2017. A copy can be obtained by contacting the Elko Water Department at 775-777-7375.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?
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 (EPA) 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining

activities. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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

How can I get involved?
City water department staff works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that each of our customers help us protect our water source, which is the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Additional Information for Lead
Your water meets the health standard for lead, but 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. The City of Elko Public Water System 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.

Additional Information for Arsenic
While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Additional Information for Nitrate
Although your water meets drinking standards, Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one-year-old. In this table, you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG Or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants								
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	0	80	4.8	1.1	4.8	2023	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5'S (Halo Acetic Acids) (ppb)	0	60	.76	.66	.76	2023	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	6	ND	6	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.09	ND	0.09	2022	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.76	.66	.76	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	7.47	0.55	7.47	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	2	ND	2	2022	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Radioactive Contaminants Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.								

Detect Information about Radon

Radon: "Only about 1-2 percent of radon in the air comes from drinking water. However, breathing radon increases the risk of lung cancer over the course of your lifetime. Some radon stays in the water; drinking water containing radon also presents a risk of developing internal organ cancers, primarily stomach cancer. However, this risk is smaller than the risk of developing lung cancer from radon released to air from tap water. Although the EPA has previously proposed maximum contaminant levels for radon, there are currently no federal (or state) drinking water standards for radon." Source = Decay of uranium (and radium)

Contaminants	MCLG Or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi//L)	0	30	3.7	-10	3.7	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha Excluding Radon & Uranium (pCi/L)	0	15	1.0	-10	1.0	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/L)	0	50	12	5.9	12	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined) 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	1.8	0.6	1.8	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium (uG/L)	0	30	25.8	0	25.8	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.129	2022	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	3	2022	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG Or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Volatile Organic Contaminates								
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	1.5	.36	1.5	2023	No	Discharge from factories and other dry cleaners

Contaminants	MCLG	Your Water	# Samples Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform (TCR)	0	Systems that collect less than 40 samples per month-No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0 Positive Monthly	2023	No	Naturally present in the environment

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system.

Secondary Standards
Non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects or aesthetic effects in drinking water.

Contaminant	MCLG Or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Sample Date	Samples Exceeding MCL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	500	1000	365 to 1050	2023	7	Yes	Noticeable Effects Above Secondary MCL Hardness; Deposits; Colored Water; Staining; Salty Taste

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
T.O.N.	Threshold Odor Number

Exceedances

Uranium

Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL (30 ug/L) over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer and kidney toxicity. **No Exceedances were reported in 2023.**

Gross Alpha

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. **No Exceedances were reported in 2023.**

Contaminants	MCLG	Your Water	# Samples Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) City Park Shop	500	539	1	3-13-2023	Yes	Noticeable Effects Above Secondary MCL Hardness; Deposits; Colored Water; Staining; Salty Taste

Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) Chamber of Commerce	500	702	1	3-13-2023	Yes	Noticeable Effects Above Secondary MCL Hardness; Deposits; Colored Water; Staining; Salty Taste
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) Well 24	500	1050	1	5-11-2023	Yes	Noticeable Effects Above Secondary MCL Hardness; Deposits; Colored Water; Staining; Salty Taste
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) Well 13	500	736	1	6-13-2023	Yes	Noticeable Effects Above Secondary MCL Hardness; Deposits; Colored Water; Staining; Salty Taste
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) City Park Shop	500	743	1	6-13-2023	Yes	Noticeable Effects Above Secondary MCL Hardness; Deposits; Colored Water; Staining; Salty Taste
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) Chamber of Commerce	500	640	1	6-13-2023	Yes	Noticeable Effects Above Secondary MCL Hardness; Deposits; Colored Water; Staining; Salty Taste
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) City Park Shop	500	618	1	10-4-2023	Yes	Noticeable Effects Above Secondary MCL Hardness; Deposits; Colored Water; Staining; Salty Taste

Contaminants	**MCLG**	**Your Water**	**# Samples Exceeding AL**	**Sample Date**	**Exceeds AL**	**Typical Source**
Odor-Well 37 W06	3 TON	4 TON	1	2022	Yes	Rotten Egg, Musty, or Chemical Smell
Odor-Well 12 W09	3 TON	4 TON & 7 TON	2	2022	Yes	Rotten Egg, Musty, or Chemical Smell
Odor-Well 14 W10	3 TON	4 TON	1	2022	Yes	Rotten Egg, Musty, or Chemical Smell
Odor-Well 18 W15	3 TON	4 TON & 6 TON	2	2022	Yes	Rotten Egg, Musty, or Chemical Smell

Odor-Well I-96 W18	3 TON	4 TON	1	2022	Yes	Rotten Egg, Musty, or Chemical Smell
Odor-Well 42 W19	3 TON	5 TON	1	2022	Yes	Rotten Egg, Musty, or Chemical Smell

Violations

No Violations were reported in 2023.

Violation Type	ID or Tag Number	Source Name	Contaminate	Monitoring Period	Number of Samples Required	Number of Samples Taken

If you have any questions or comments regarding these violations, please call PWS contact: **Dale Johnson** at phone no. **775-777-7212**.

If other people, such as tenants, residents, patients, students, or employees, receive water from you, it is important that you provide this notice to them by posting in a conspicuous location or by direct hand or mail delivery.

For more information, please contact:
Contact Name: Dale Johnson, Utilities Director
Address: 1550 STP. Road, Elko, NV 89801
Phone: 775-777-7212 Cell: 775-388-3384
Email: djohnson@elkocitynv.gov

*IMPORTANT NOTICE *

On August 1, 2024 Water Rates will increase for Commercial and Residential Customers.

Flat-rate customers will increase by 20%

Base Water Rate	**Old Rate $33.61**	**New Rate $40.39**
Outside City Limits (1.5 Times City Rate)	**Old Rate $50.49**	**New Rate $60.59**

Metered customers will increase by 10%

Metered Rate	**Old Rate $1.21 per 1000**	**New Rate $1.33 per 1000**
Monthly 1” Meter Base	**Old Rate $23.99**	**New Rate $26.39**
Water 18,000 Gallons	**Example $1.33 X 18 = $23.94**	

Commercial Fire Line Fees will increase by 20%

Starting January 1, 2025, all flat-rate residential and commercial customers will start converting to water meters. This project will be rolled out over three years. Customers with existing meter pits have been designated to have meters installed first. Those without meter pits will have one installed in the City ROW of your property near the existing City shut-off valve.