

2020 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Information

Water System Name: The Morning Star Packing Company

Report Date: March 22, 2021

Type of Water Source in Use: Groundwater

Name and General Location of Source: Morning Star Packing, a food processing and packaging facility located at 13448 Volta Road near Los Banos in Merced owns and operates four wells

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: Water source assessments were completed and reported on 04/25/2018. There have been no contaminants detected in the water supply due to well construction and surrounding physical barrier effectiveness (PBE). Copies of the assessments are available by requesting a summary

Time and Place of Colleague Potable Water Meetings are posted on the Liberty and Morning Star Conference Rooms' Outlook Calender

For More Information, Contact: Tod Harter, phone 209-829-5002, email tharter@morningstarco.com

About This Report

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Importance of This Report Statement in Five Non-English Languages (Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Hmong)

Language in Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Morning Star Packing Company, 13448 Volta Road near Los Banos, 209-826-8000 in Merced para asistirlo en español.

Language in Mandarin: 这份报告含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息。请用以下地址和电话联系 Morning Star Packing Company 以获得中文的帮助: 13448 Road near Los Banos, 209-826-8000.

Language in Tagalog: Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa Morning Star Packing Company o tumawag sa 13448 Volta Road near Los Banos, 209-826-8000 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

Language in Vietnamese: Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên Morning Star Packing Company tại 13448 Volta Road near Los Banos, 209-826-8000 để được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.

Language in Hmong: Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau Morning Star Packing Company ntawm 13448 Volta Road near Los Banos, 209-826-8000 rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.

Terms Used in This Report

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): 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.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

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

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variations and Exemptions: Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppq: parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants that May Be Present in Source Water

The source of the Liberty Packing Company, LLC's drinking water comes from three groundwater 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from stormwater runoff, industrial process rinsewater discharges, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and stormwater runoff.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes, stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring.

Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

About Your Drinking Water Quality

Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Table 1. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	1 positive monthly sample ^(a)	0	Naturally present in the environment

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive		Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	(b)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Two or more positive monthly samples is a violation of the MCL

(b) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive, and either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

Table 2. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	6/24/19	5	0	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
copper (ppm)	6/24/19	5	0.205		1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Table 3. Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	4/24/19	98	51-98	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Hardness (ppm)	4/24/19	240	160 - 240	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	4/24/19	4.9	0 - 2.4	10	0.004	Leaching from natural deposits.
Barium (ppb)	4/24/19	110	0 - 110	1000	2000	Leaching from natural deposits.
Chromium (Total) (ppb)	4/24/19	34	16 to 34	50	10	Leaching from natural deposits.
Chromium, Hexavalent (ppb)	8/29/17	35	17 – 35	50	100	Leaching from natural deposits
Fluoride (Natural Source) (ppm)	4/24/19	0.21	0.14 – 0.21	2	1	Leaching from natural deposits
Nitrite (as, N) (ppm)	6/13/18	3.1	0.78 to 3.1	10	10	Ground migration of agriculture, food processing and dairies waste.
Nitrate (as NO ₃) (ppm)	10/16/19	3.0	0.83 to 3.0	45	45	Ground migration of fertilizers and food processing waste
Nitrate + Nitrite (as N)	9/9/2020	3.3	0.83 to 3.3	10	10	Ground migration of fertilizers and food processing and dairies waste
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2/27/19	4.53	0.0 – 4.53	15	none	Leaching from natural deposits

Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Color (Units)	4/24/19	0	0	15	none	Naturally occurring organic materials
Iron (ppb)	4/24/19	130	0 - 130	300	none	Leaching from natural deposits

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Turbidity (NTU)	4/24/19	0.7	0.2 - 0.7	5	none	Naturally occurring organic materials
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2/24/19	750	490 - 750	1000	none	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	8/19/20	1000	620 - 1000	1600	none	Leaching from natural deposits
Chloride (ppm)	4/24/19	220	110 - 170	500	none	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	4/24/19	99	61 - 99	500	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

Table 6. Detection of Unregulated Contaminants

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Boron (ppb)	4/24/19	880	400 - 880	1000	none

Additional General Information on 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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. U.S. 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Lead-Specific Language: 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 plumbing. Liberty Packing Company, LLC is responsible for providing high quality drinking water. When the 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 and the use for food applications. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.