

## Notice in response to EPA Drinking Water Health Advisories for PFOA and PFOS

In May 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) dropped the health advisory levels for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) in drinking water from 400 parts per trillion (ppt) and 200 ppt, respectively, to a blended concentration of 70 ppt. These are not regulated chemicals. PFOA and PFOS have been used to make carpets, clothing, food packaging, cookware, and used for firefighting at airfields. Most people are exposed to these chemicals through food and consumer products. Drinking water can be an additional exposure source in a small percentage of communities where PFOA and PFOS have entered water supplies.

Recently, the EPA sampled area wells and found these chemicals in concentrations above the new advisory limits. Although Valley Utilities Water Co., Inc. (VUWCO) did not contribute to the PFOA and PFOS chemicals infiltrating the drinking water supplies, VUWCO is conducting regular sampling and analysis of our water sources to ensure that customers continue to receive drinking water that is in compliance with applicable health and environmental regulations.

VUWCO is notifying its customers that the new health advisory levels are calculated to make the public aware of potential adverse effects on the most sensitive populations; fetuses during pregnancy, breastfed infants, and people with immunity issues. Though no harm is imminent, sensitive populations may seek an alternative water source with PFOA and PFOS levels below 70 ppt. Parents with formula-fed infants should consider using formula that does not require adding water or using an alternative source for infant consumption.

VUWCO is working with state and federal officials as well as other affected water providers to find a long-term solution regarding PFOA and PFOS. To the extent that you would like more information regarding these chemicals, their health effects, or the basis for the EPA's actions, the EPA's health advisory can be found on their website, see below:

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-and-pfos>