

## Radium Update Sept. 29, 2021

The Holbein plant was tested on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. Currently awaiting those results to come back. Because the EPA standard is calculated on a rolling annual average, we suspect that the numbers will still exceed the maximum of 5 pCi/l.

We are planning on shutting down the Holbein plant in October. It all depends on the weather. As long as customers are irrigating their lawns, we depend on the Holbein plant to meet the demand. Once irrigation stops, we can meet demand with the R. Hull plant, which has NOT exceeded the EPA limit. We will keep the Holbein plant down, except to run it for testing purposes, until April or May of 2022.

We are having some literature drawn up and put together into a brochure that we can post on the website and send to customers with an in-depth explanation of radiation from Steven Brown who is an expert Board Certified Health Physicist who specializes in the health aspects of radiation and who is currently the Safety Officer for Colorado, approved by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Some high points that he shared at our Board Meeting on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> are the levels of radiation everyone here on the front range is exposed to and how much of an impact the radium in Donala's water is. Each person in this community is exposed to 400-500 millirems of radiation annually compared to someone living in Florida who is only exposed to 100-150 millirems annually. The current level of radium in Donala's water equates to approximately 4 to 5 millirems annually. This level accounts to a less than 1% addition to the 400-500 millirems one is already exposed to. For those who live in Leadville the level of exposure is 500-600 millirems.

We also had Kristy Richardson, who is the State Toxicologist explain that at 10 pCi/l, which is higher than the 6.7 pCi/l that Donala recorded, out of 10,000 people drinking the water over an entire lifetime, 2 to 3 people may contract cancer. She also stated that the current cancer risk in the State of Colorado is 1 in 3 and our level of radium equates to one chest x-ray a year.

We will post more updates as they are available.