

# Control Gorge Power Plant



## 2023 Drinking Water Quality Report

The 2023 Drinking Water Quality Report for Control Gorge Power Plant (CGPP) was prepared by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). This annual Drinking Water Quality Report (also known as a Consumer Confidence Report) is required by the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and is prepared in accordance with their guidelines. The report provides information about drinking water at CGPP during the 2023 calendar year (January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023). Only those constituents that were detected are listed.

### SUMMARY

The water provided to the CGPP meets all state and federal drinking water requirements. Only the following substances with primary standards were detected at low levels in the water supplied to CGPP: **arsenic, chlorine residual, fluoride, uranium, gross alpha, and nitrate**. SWRCB-DDW allows us to monitor for a number of contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. The data for lead and copper on this table are the results of residential tap monitoring conducted in 2023 as required by the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). For more information on these contaminants, please refer to the Table 1 "Health Based Primary Drinking Water Substances Detected."

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.**

**Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

## WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The term “source water” describes where LADWP obtains the water you drink. All drinking water, tap or bottled, comes from either surface water or groundwater sources. Surface water sources include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, or reservoirs. Groundwater sources are springs or wells.

CGPP receives natural spring water. The domestic water supply comes from a spring located adjacent to Lower Rock Creek in Birchim Canyon near the plant. It is disinfected with chlorine to ensure bacterial quality of the water. It is also treated by filtration, coagulation, and flocculation to decrease turbidity and remove arsenic and other constituents. All monitoring and analyses of source and treated waters are conducted by LADWP personnel.



## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

LADWP is required to conduct source water assessments every five years. In 2020, LADWP conducted an assessment of the Owens Valley and Mono Basin watersheds that supply the Los Angeles Aqueduct. These sources are most vulnerable to geothermal activities that release naturally occurring arsenic into creeks that feed the Owens River. Other activities that impact water quality in these watersheds are livestock grazing, wildlife, and unauthorized public use of storage reservoirs. The impact to water quality from these activities is deemed to be minimal. Regular monitoring for *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* indicates that their presence is infrequent and at very low levels.

## WHY IS DRINKING WATER MONITORED AND TREATED?

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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source waters include:

Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 run-off, 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 run-off, and residential uses.

Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also, come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be a result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.EPA) and the DDW prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. DDW regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

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 (800-426-4791).

#### **Health Advisory for People with Weakened Immune Systems**

Although LADWP treats its water to meet drinking water standards, some people may be more vulnerable to constituents 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 individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/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 USEPA at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

#### **WATER QUALITY UPDATE**

There were no violations of drinking water standards during the 2023 calendar year. However, one Unsafe Water Alert was issued to all CGPP residents. This occurred on May 11th due to a booster pump failure at the Control Gorge Water System. This led to a loss in pressure within the distribution system. Pump repair was completed within hours and water pressure was restored within the distribution system. Disinfection of the distribution system was completed, bacterial monitoring was conducted, and DDW approval was confirmed prior to canceling the Unsafe Water Alert on May 12th.

## **MONITORING OF REGULATED CONSTITUENTS**

There are over 110 regulated constituents (or contaminants). Utilities monitor for each constituent at varying frequencies based on the type of constituent and the type of source water. For example, groundwater sources are generally sampled once every three years. Those constituents that pose acute risk require more frequent monitoring. Nitrate sampling is required quarterly, and bacteriological sampling is required monthly. Since most constituents are not detected in our water, only those constituents that are detected are listed in the tables.

### **Arsenic**

Arsenic compliance is based on a running annual average (RAA). The RAA was below the standard in 2023. While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it may contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 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

### **Turbidity**

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Turbidity has no health effects. However, high levels of turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites such as *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

### **Lead in Drinking Water**

Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) sampling was conducted in August, 2023. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values for both lead and copper at CGPP were below their respective Action Levels. This data, as well as other water quality data, are shown in the tables on the following pages. Tap water sampling, as required by the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), will be conducted in 2024.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. 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 Control Gorge Power Plant 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 do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants. 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/lead>

## MONITORING OF UNREGULATED CONSTITUENTS

There are contaminants/constituents found in drinking water that are not yet regulated. Some of these “unregulated contaminants/constituents” are monitored because they could be candidates for future regulations or are of interest to our consumers.

### TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

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

**DLR (Detection Limit for Reporting Purposes):** The DLR is the lowest level at which all DDW certified laboratories can accurately and reliably detect a compound. The DLR provides a standardized basis for reporting purposes.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the PHGs and MCLGs (see below) as economically or technologically feasible. For certain contaminants, compliance with the MCL is based on the average of all samples taken throughout the year.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) - Federal:** 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.

**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

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

**NL (Notification Levels) - State:** Health-based advisory levels established by DDW for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). When chemicals are found at concentrations greater than their notification levels, certain requirements and recommendations apply.

**PHG (Public Health Goal) - State:** 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.

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

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

**TT (Treatment Technique):** A required treatment process, which will reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## CONTROL GORGE POWER PLANT – 2023 CALENDAR YEAR

*TABLE 1: Health-Based Primary Drinking Water Substances Detected*

Constituents	Major Source in Drinking Water	Sampled	Units	MEET PRIMARY STANDARD / ACTION LEVEL(AL)?	Primary Standard (MCL)	PHG	Control Gorge Power Plant Water Quality	
							<b>Range</b>	<b>Average</b>
Arsenic	Natural hot springs; erosion of natural deposits	2023	µg/L	YES	10	0.004	1.3 – 4.5	2.3
Chlorine Residual, Total (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment	2023	mg/L	YES	[MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	[MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	1.85 – 3.45	2.43
Copper (at-the-tap) <sup>a</sup> September 2023	Internal corrosion of interior water plumbing systems	2023	µg/L	YES	AL=1300	300	number of samples exceeding AL = 0 out of 5	90th Percentile value = 956
Fluoride	Erosion of natural deposits	2023	mg/L	YES	2	1	0.766 – 0.766	0.766
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation	2023	pCi/L	YES	15	0	7.18	7.18

### Footnote for Table 1

- a. At-the-tap monitoring in 2023 was conducted annually, as required by the Lead and Copper Rule. A system is out of compliance if the 90th percentile value of all samples taken exceeds the Action Level of 1300 µg/L of copper.



*TABLE 1 (CONT'D): Health-Based Primary Drinking Water Substances Detected*

Constituents	Major Source in Drinking Water	Sampled	Units	MEET PRIMARY STANDARD / ACTION LEVEL(AL)?	Primary Standard (MCL)	PHG	Control Gorge Power Plant Water Quality	
							Range	Average
Lead (at-the-tap) <sup>a</sup> <i>September 2023</i>	Internal corrosion of interior water plumbing systems	2023	µg/L	YES	AL=15	0.2	number of samples exceeding AL = 0 out of 5	90th Percentile value = 0.85
Nitrate (as N)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits	2023	mg/L	YES	10	10	0.5	0.5
Turbidity <sup>b</sup>	Soil runoff	2023	NTU	YES	TT	TT	% reading ≤ 0.3: 100%	0.04
Uranium <sup>c</sup>	Erosion of natural deposits	2023	pCi/L	YES	20	0.43	6.1	6.1

**Footnotes for Table 1**

- At-the-tap monitoring was conducted in 2023, as required by the Lead and Copper Rule. A system is out of compliance if the 90th percentile value of all samples taken exceeds the Action Level of 15 µg/L of lead.
- Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance. The Primary Drinking Water Standard for turbidity at the treatment plant is less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in at least 95% of the measurements taken in any month, and may not exceed 1.0 NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants and can harbor pathogens. The reporting requirement for treatment plant turbidity is to report the highest single measurement in the calendar year and the lowest monthly percentage of measurements less than or equal to 0.3 NTU. Turbidity is monitored at 15-minute intervals all year round.
- Radioactivity was analyzed in 2023. Groundwater is required to be tested once every three years for radiological constituents.

*Table 2: Regulated Substances with Secondary Drinking Water Standards Detected*

Constituents	Major Source in Drinking Water	Sampled	Units	Secondary MCL	Control Gorge Power Plant Water Quality
					<b>Level Detected</b>
Chloride	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits	2023	mg/L	500	21.2
Color	Naturally-occurring organic materials	2023	ACU	15	3
pH	Naturally-occurring dissolved gases and minerals	2023	Unit	6.5 – 8.5	7.9
Specific Conductance	Substances that form ions when in water	2023	µS/cm	1600	353
Sulfate (as SO <sub>4</sub> )	Natural constituent	2023	mg/L	500	17.5
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits	2023	mg/L	1000	239
Turbidity	Soil runoff	2023	NTU	5	0.04

*Table 3: Unregulated Drinking Water Substances Detected*

Constituents	Major Source in Drinking Water	Sampled	Units	Control Gorge Power Plant Water Quality
				<b>Level Detected</b>
Alkalinity	Natural constituent	2023	mg/L	125
Boron	Natural constituent	2023	µg/L	807
Calcium	Natural constituent	2023	mg/L	19.5
Magnesium	Natural constituent	2023	mg/L	4.08
Sodium	Natural constituent	2023	mg/L	48.8
Total Hardness [as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ]	Natural constituent	2023	mg/L	65.5
Vanadium	Natural constituent	2023	µg/L	7
Zinc	Natural constituent	2023	µg/L	14.1



**Abbreviations for Tables**

- mg/L = milligrams per Liter (equivalent to parts per million)
- NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$  = microsiemens per centimeter
- $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$  = micrograms per Liter (equivalent to parts per billion)
- pCi/L = picocuries per liter

## GENERAL INFORMATION

This annual Drinking Water Quality Report (also known as a Consumer Confidence Report) is required by the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water and is prepared in accordance with their guidelines.

LADWP, the largest municipal utility in the nation, was established more than 100 years ago. The utility now provides a reliable and safe water and electric supply to the City's more than 4 million residents and businesses. LADWP is governed by a five-member Board of Water and Power Commissioners, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The Board meets regularly on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Meetings are held at:           **Los Angeles Department of Water and Power**  
  111 North Hope Street, Room 1555H  
  Los Angeles, CA 90012-2694

The meeting agenda is available to the public the Thursday prior to the week of the meeting. You can access the Board agenda at [www.ladwp.com/board](http://www.ladwp.com/board) or by calling (213) 367-1351. For general information about LADWP, call (800) 342-5397 or visit [www.ladwp.com](http://www.ladwp.com).

For questions regarding information in this report, please contact the Water Quality Hotline at (213)-367-3182.