# 2020 Consumer Confidence Report

## Water System Information

Water System Name: Sierra Linda Mutual Water Company

Report Date: April 1, 2021

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Groundwater

Name and General Location of Source(s): The Sierra Linda Mutual Water Companies water comes from three wells located on site. ( Well number’s 1,2,and 4)

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: The Madera County Environmental Health Division has completed source water assessments for this water system in 2002. For more information contact the Madera County Environmental Health Division at 559-675-7823 or the Sierra Linda Mutual Water Company at 559-877-4701.

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: Please contact the water company for the time and place of any pending board meetings. The phone number is 559-877-4701.

For More Information Contact: Don Willey. Phone number is 559-970-6908.

## 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. Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Sierra Linda Mutual Water Company a 559-877-4701 para asistirlo en español.

## 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.

Variances 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 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

* 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, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
* Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
* Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
* Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount 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  0 | No. of Months in Violation  0 | MCL | MCLG  0 | Typical Source of Bacteria |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule) | (In a month)  0 | 0 | 1 positive monthly sample (a) | 0 | Naturally present in the environment |
| Fecal Coliform or *E. coli* (state Total Coliform Rule) | (In the year)  0 | 0 | A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or *E. coli* positive | 0 | Human and animal fecal waste |
| *E. coli*  (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule) | (In the year)  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 | 90th Percentile Level Detected | No. Sites Exceeding AL | AL | PHG | No. of Schools Request-ing Lead Sampling | Typical Source of Contaminant |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lead (ppm) | 8-18-19 | 5 | .006 | 0 | .015 | .002 | blank | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (ppm) | 8-18-19 | 5 | .065 | 0 | 1.3 | .3 | Not applicable | 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 | Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | Typical Source of Contaminant |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sodium (ppm) | 11-30-20 | 21.5 ppm | 13 ppm -30ppm | None | None | Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring |
| Hardness (ppm) | 11-30-20 | 100 mg equiv. CaCO3/L | 70 mg equiv. CaCO3/L-130 mg equiv. CaCO3/L | 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 | Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Typical Source of Contaminant |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Gross Alpha(pCi/L)  Uranium(pCi/L)  Combined Radium 226 & 228(PCi/L)  Radium 226(pCi/L) | 2020  2020  2017  2018 | **\*55.66**  **\*80.97**  .31  1 | 2.5-199.5  2.4-250  0-.61  .93-1.2 | 15  20  5  5 | (0)  .43  0  .05 | Erosion of natural deposits.  Erosion of natural deposits.  Erosion of natural deposits.  Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Arsenic(ppb)  Barium(ppb)  Nitrate as N(ppm)  Cadmium(ppb)  Nickel(ppb)  Fluoride(ppm) | 2020  2020  2020  2020  2020  2020 | **\*11.72**  33  .83  .21  1.7  .33 | 2.5-31  0-33  0-.83  0-.21  0-1.7  .31-.35 | 10  10000  10  5  100  2 | .004  2000  10  .04  12  1 | Erosion of natural deposits: runoff from orchards: glass and electronics production waste.  Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries: erosion of natural deposits  Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits  Internal corrosion of galvanized pipes: erosion of natural resources  Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories  Erosion of natural deposits |
| blank | blank | blank | blank | blank | blank | blank |

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 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Iron(ppb)  Manganese(ppm)  Copper(ppm)  Chloride(ppm)  Sulfate(ppm)  Zinc(ppm)  Aluminum(ppb) | 2020  2020  2020  2020  2020  2020  2020 | **\*1505**  **\*86.83**  .0056  39  10.35  1.3  8.35 | 0-3100  26-200  0-.0056  0-39  9.7-11  .0066-2.6  7.6-9.1 | 300  50  1  500  500  5.  200 |  | Leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste  Leaching from natural deposits  Internal corrosion of plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits: leaching from wood preservatives  Runoff/leaching from natural deposits: industrial waste.  Runoff/leaching from natural deposits: industrial waste  Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste  Erosion of natural deposits |
| Total Dissolved Solids(TDS)(ppm)  Specific Conductance(uS/cm)  Threshold Odor Number (TON)  Turbidity(NTU)  Color(Units) | 2020  2020  2020  2020  2020 | 260  385  1  **\*9.15**  *10* | 150-370  190-580  1  .3-12  0-20 | 1000  1600  3  5  15 |  | Leaching/runoff from natural deposits  Substances that form ions when in water: seawater influence  Naturally occurring organic Materials  Soil runoff  Naturally occurring organic materials |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 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 home plumbing. The Sierra Linda Mutual Water Company 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

### Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement.

Violation: Arsenic is over the current MCL.

Explanation: In well #2.

Duration: Ongoing

Actions Taken to Correct the Violation: See summary information for operating under a variance or exemption.

Health Effects Language: Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the current MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory problems and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation: Uranium and Gross Alpha are over the current MCL

Explanation : In well #2 and well #4

Duration: Ongoing

Actions Taken To Correct the Violation: See summary information for operating under a variance or exemption.

Health Effects Language: Some people who drink water containing Uranium and Gross Alpha in excess of the current MCL may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation: Iron and Manganese are over the current MCL.

Explanation: Iron in well #1 and #2. Manganese in Well #1 and intermittently in well #2.

Duration: Ongoing

Actions Taken To correct the violation: See summary information for operating under a variance or exemption.

Health Effects Language: The iron and manganese MCL’s were set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (color ,taste and odor) and staining of plumbing fixtures and clothing while washing

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

### Summary Information for Operating Under a Variance or Exemption.

The Sierra Linda Mutual Water Company (SLMWC) has been operating under a compliance order due to high MCL’s. As you know we have been attempting to correct the problem. At the end of 2019 the proposed project included the consolidation of Bass Lake Annex #3 into the SLMWC water system, and construction of water treatment and distribution facilities to meet the arsenic and uranium maximum contaminant level (MCL) standards and improve the quality of the water supplied to the SLMWC’s service area and Bass Lake Annex #3 area. The proposed project would include the construction of new tanks, water distribution pipelines a well and treatment facilities that would allow for blending of higher quality water to achieve the MCL’s. Additional facilities would be constructed to meter water service and provide adequate control rates to meet fire protection needs of existing customers. The environmental review was completed at the end of 2017. The consolidated rate study was completed in 2019. A financial review was cleared by the State Water Resources Control Board-Division of Financial Assistance and we are currently waiting for a financial agreement to be drawn up.

### Summary Information for Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment Requirements

#### Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an E. coli MCL Violation

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. We found no coliforms.

During the past year we were required to conduct no Level 1 assessments. No level 1 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take no corrective actions

During the past year no Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system. No Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take no corrective actions.

#### Level 2 Assessment Requirement Due to an E. coli MCL Violation

*E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems. We found no *E. coli* bacteria.

We were not required to complete a Level 2 assessment because we did not find *E. coli* in our water system. In addition.