

November 2, 2018

To: Mr. Vozech, Borough Administrator 

From: James De Block, License Operator, Borough of Ramsey

As requested the following is a summary of the testing, analytical data and quality of the drinking water for the Borough of Ramsey;

- The drinking water the Borough provides complies with all Federal and New Jersey State Quality Standards.
- The Borough samples and test water on a daily, weekly and monthly basis with over 500 samples collected annually for over 50 regulated compounds. Compliance samples are sent for testing to an independent New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection certified lab.
- I can only speak to the time I have served as License Operator since 2010 and during that period, Ramsey has received no violations from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection regarding the quality of its water.

More specifically for testing on Arsenic levels please find the following:

- Ramsey is required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to collect monthly and quarterly compliance samples at each of the Arsenic Removal water treatment facilities operated by the Water Department.
- The NJDEP establishes a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 5 ppb for Arsenic.
- New Jersey's Arsenic limit is the most stringent in the nation. The USEPA limit and the limit imposed in most states is 10 ppb.
- During the previous 8 years, 2011 – 2018 approximately 1,200 Arsenic Samples have been collected and analyzed from the Borough's arsenic treatment facilities. Only a single random sample, referenced below, exceeded the 5 ppb running annual average.
- Additionally, the NJDEP calculates compliance with the Arsenic MCL based upon the total annual running average of all samples collected at a given facility.
- Running annual averages are used when imposing limits because the regulatory agencies recognize that occasional analytical outliers can occur without warning and also because many limits are based upon long term/lifetime chronic exposure to a chemical rather than occasional exposure to a slightly higher amount.

- During 2016 a single sample collected at the Darlington Well House was reported as 7.7 parts per billion (still lower than USEPA level of 10 ppb). That sample was an outlier resulting from a mechanical failure. The facility was immediately shut down until repairs were completed.
- The level detected at the Darlington Well in that single sample was not a violation since the NJDEP calculates compliance based on the total running annual average.
- During 2016 the total running annual average at the Darlington Well House was 4.3 ppb well below the limit of 5 ppb.

Detailed Water Quality Reports are available on the Borough Website