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News Release

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April 2025 Arsenic Test Results

April 2025 arsenic test results show that of the three arsenic treatment facilities (ATFs) operated by the Camino Real Regional Utility Authority (CRRUA) that were tested, two were again below federal limits for arsenic and one was slightly higher.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL) for arsenic is 10 parts per billion (ppb). Test results released by Eurofins Environment Testing; an independent water lab certified by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) show the Sunland Park ATF at 6.2 ppb, the Santa Teresa Community ATF at 4.5 ppb and the Santa Teresa Industrial ATF at 12 ppb.

“When we received the test results for the Santa Teresa Industrial ATF, we immediately implemented protocols and standard operating procedures (SOPs) we initiated in partnership with NMED, and adjusted treatment that lowered the arsenic level to below the MCL,” said CRRUA Executive director Juan Crosby. “At no time was the public health at risk. The water continues to meet NMED and EPA standards and is safe to consume,” Crosby said CRRUA notified NMED about the exceedance in accordance with the SOPs.

Crosby said CRRUA will continue to conduct daily monitoring at all ATFs and will follow up with additional testing at the Santa Teresa Industrial ATF on May 13 and May 20, utilizing an independent, NMED certified laboratory.

Crosby said developing SOPs was a priority when he was named CRRUA acting executive director in January 2024. “My team, NMED, Bridel Facility Operations and I worked diligently to develop procedures that govern the proper operation of our ATFs,” Crosby said.

“Our quick response in correcting the exceedance at the Santa Teresa Industrial ATF is a direct result of the processes we enacted. I am extremely proud of the timely and proper corrective actions our team took to protect the health and safety of CRRUA customers,” Crosby added.

Crosby said the voluntary monthly testing CRRUA has been conducting since February 2024 is to not only for internal monitoring purposes, but for public transparency.

“Our monthly testing is strictly voluntary,” Crosby said. “It is a proactive process we undertake to keep our customers constantly informed about water quality. We post arsenic test results on the CRRUA website at crrua.org and on the CRRUA Facebook page.” He said although the tests are conducted by an independent, NMED certified lab, they are not for compliance purposes. Only the quarterly tests NMED conducts are for compliance.

CRRUA excluded the Border Entry ATF from its voluntary testing due to its continued meeting of federal and state requirements. The water samples used in the testing were collected on April 23, 2025.

As of January 2025, all four Arsenic Treatment Facilities (ATFs) operated by CRRUA are NMED compliant, which means they were below EPA's MCL for four consecutive quarters.

So far this year, CRRUA passed NMED's first quarter arsenic test, and three-monthly voluntary tests verified by an independent laboratory.

Since January 24, 2024, CRRUA has passed 22 arsenic tests including four quarterly NMED tests.

Arsenic tests results are available on the CRRUA website crrua.org.

CRRUA recently achieved 94.8% compliance in correcting deficiencies identified by NMED in its 2023 Sanitary Survey of CRRUA. Of the 58 deficiencies identified, CRRUA has corrected 55.

CRRUA provides water and wastewater services to Sunland Park and Santa Teresa, NM.

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April 2025

CRRUA Voluntary Monthly Arsenic Test Results for April 2025

Tests are conducted by an independent laboratory Certified by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED).

