

## 2019 CCR Special Notice for Waipahu Wells IV Pump #2

### Water quality test results for Waipahu Wells IV Pump #2

Contaminant	MCL (Allowed)	MCLG (Goal)	E. coli found	Sample Year	Violation (Yes/No)	Source of contaminant
E. coli	0	0	Positive	2018	No	Human and animal fecal waste

On September 11, 2018, Board of Water Supply (BWS) detected coliform bacteria in a routine water sample from the Ko Olina Golf Maintenance Building that was collected on September 10, 2018. In accordance with the federal Ground Water Rule, BWS staff collected a repeat sample from the Ko Olina Golf Maintenance Building and samples from all of its well pumps at Hoaeae Wells, Honouliuli Wells I and II, Kunia Wells I and III and Waipahu Wells IV pumping stations on September 11, 2018. Of these samples only Waipahu Wells IV Pump #2 tested E. coli positive the following day. The repeat sample from Ko Olina Golf Maintenance Building and samples from all other well pumps were all E. coli negative. As required by Rule, the BWS immediately collected five (5) additional follow up samples from Waipahu Wells IV, Pump #2 on September 12, 2018. After the samples were collected the well was then shut down. E. coli testing requires 24 hours to complete. The follow up tests confirmed the initial detection of E. coli bacteria in BWS Waipahu Wells IV Pump #2 reported on September 12, 2018.

E. coli bacteria can exist in tropical, sub-tropical, and temperate soil and may persist in soil for a number of years. E. coli is a fecal indicator and microbe whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term health effects, such as diarrhea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

During the time Waipahu Wells IV, Pump #2 was operating chlorine was being added to the well water before it reaches customers. Water samples collected from the Ko Olina Golf Maintenance Building on September 10 and 11, 2018 had chlorine present and tested negative for E. coli. Samples collected on September 10, 2018 from East Kapolei Fire Station, Nanakuli Fire Station, Pokai Bay Beach Park, Waianae Fire Station, BWS Waianae Corporation Yard and Kulahanai Place also had chlorine present and tested negative for E. coli. For this reason, the water from this source is safe to drink and the public was not at risk of E. coli exposure because the water was disinfected before it reached customers. BWS reported the incident in press releases dated September 12 and 13, 2018.

The BWS received Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) approval on December 28, 2018 to resume well operations after completing an investigation and the necessary corrective measures on Pump #2 in consultation with DOH. BWS will monitor and disinfect the well water before it reaches our customers.