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# CANYON GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

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800 Peri Ranch Rd., Suite 103, Sparks, NV 89434

Phone 342-2850

Fax 342-2851

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January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Re: Public notice concerning your drinking water.

Dear Canyon General Improvement District residents:

Please see attached notice concerning your drinking water. Canyon GID volunteered to test water samples for the contaminants (PFAS) listed in the attached notice. These contaminants are not currently regulated by the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP) and Canyon GID is not in violation of any contaminate level.

Canyon GID wanted to be proactive in testing of these contaminants in anticipation of 2024 testing regulations for PFAS.

These contaminants have been identified in higher concentrations in surface water 3 miles west of Canyon GID and are therefore not localized to the Canyon GID aquifers.

**The Canyon GID Board of Directors and Management wanted to ensure that our customers are notified and are kept informed of all developments concerning PFAS testing results.**

**What is being done?**

Additional testing and monitoring of PFAS will be ongoing. The Canyon GID is developing an action plan to reduce PFAS concentrations. We anticipate resolving the issue within the 2024 calendar year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitch Andreini". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mitch Andreini, Manager, Canyon General Improvement District. 775-342-2850

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### Canyon GID Public Water Systems (PWS ID# NV0005056) Has Levels of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctance Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) Above A Drinking Water Advisory Limit & Detections of Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS) and Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS) below Proposed Regulatory Values

Our water system recently exceeded the EPA Health Advisory Limit, and as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we *are doing* to correct this situation. Canyon GID volunteered to sample proactively for these contaminants that are not currently regulated by the EPA. These contaminants have been identified in higher concentrations in surface water 3 miles west of Canyon GID and are therefore not localized to the Canyon GID aquifers.

While we routinely monitor for the presence of Federal and State regulated drinking water contaminants, Nevada has not yet adopted a standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, or PFHxS. The EPA Health Advisory Levels and their Proposed Levels for PFAS are compared to Canyon GID's sample results collected in November, 2023 below:

PFAS Contaminant	Health Advisory Level <sup>1</sup>	EPA's Proposed Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	Your PWS's Sample Results
PFOA	0.004 ng/L	4 ng/L	9.3-11 ng/L
PFOS	0.02 ng/L	4 ng/L	18-20 ng/L
GenX Chemicals	10 ng/L	Hazard Index (see below) <sup>2</sup>	Non Detect
PFBS	2,000 ng/L	Hazard Index (see below)	6.4-7.4 ng/L
PFNA	None	Hazard Index (see below)	Non Detect
PFHxS	None	Hazard Index (see below)	7.7-8.3 ng/L

<sup>1</sup> Health Advisory Levels are based on a lifetime noncancer risk.

<sup>2</sup> Hazard Index = ( [GenX ] [10 ng/L] ) + ( [PFBS water] [2000 ng/L] ) + ( [PFNA water] [10 ng/L] ) + ( [PFHxS water] [9.0 ng/L] )

According to EPA's proposed rule, if the running annual average Hazard Index is greater than 1.0, it is a violation of the proposed Maximum Contaminant Level. Please note that this rule is anticipated to be finalized by EPA in early 2024.

On 12/8/2023, we received notice that the samples collected on 11/7/2023 showed that our system exceeds the advisory limit(s) and proposed MCL for PFOA and PFOS based on a single sample at each of our two water sources. The combination of PFHxS and PFBS resulted in levels that are greater than 90% of the proposed hazard index, but do not exceed it. It should also be noted that the Truckee River, west of the Canyon GID, has had similar concentrations of these constituents as well.

#### What are PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, and PFHxS?

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctance sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS), and perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) are members of the group of chemicals

called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). They are used as a processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers used in non-stick cookware, stain-resistant fabrics, firefighting foams, food packaging and other products, as well as other commercial and industrial uses, based on their resistance to harsh chemicals and high temperatures.

PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, and PFHxS have also been used in aqueous film-forming foams for firefighting and training, and it is found in consumer products such as stain-resistant coatings for upholstery and carpets, water-resistant outdoor clothing, and greaseproof food packaging. PFBS has been used as a replacement chemical for PFOS. Major sources of PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, and PFHxS in drinking water include discharges from industrial facilities where it was made or used and the release of aqueous film-forming foam. Although the use of PFOA and/or PFOS has decreased substantially, contamination is expected to continue indefinitely because it is extremely persistent in the environment and is soluble and mobile in water.

### **What does this mean?**

*\*People who drink water containing PFOS and/or PFOA in excess of the advisory over time could experience problems with their blood serum cholesterol levels, liver, kidney, immune system, or, in males, the reproductive system. Drinking water containing PFOS and/or PFOA in excess of the advisory over time may also increase the risk of testicular and kidney cancer. For females, drinking water containing PFOS and/or PFOA in excess of the advisory over time may cause developmental delays in a fetus and/or an infant. Some of these developmental effects may persist through childhood.*

*\* Some people who drink water containing PFHxS, HFPO-DA, PFNA, and PFBS in excess of the Hazard Index MCL could develop thyroid, liver, kidney, or developmental health effects.*

*\* For specific health information, see*

*<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-06/technical-factsheet-four-PFAS.pdf>*

### **What should I do?**

- If you have specific health concerns, a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at higher risk than other individuals and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.
- Other people may also choose to use a home water filter that is certified to reduce levels of PFOS and/or PFOA for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFAS. Home water treatment devices are available that can reduce levels of PFOS/PFOA. For more specific information regarding the effectiveness of home water filters for reducing PFOS and/or PFOA, visit the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International website, <http://www.nsf.org/>.
- Boiling your water will not remove PFAS.

### **For more information, see:**

- EPA PFAS Homepage: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>
- EPA PFAS Proposed Rule: <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>
- Nevada Division of Environmental Protection: <https://ndep.nv.gov/water/pfas-in-nevada>

### **What is being done?**

*The GID is developing an action plan to reduce PFAS concentrations. We anticipate resolving the problem within the 2024 calendar year if EPA moves quickly to release funds targeted for the reduction of PFAS and PFOS.*

**For more information, please contact:**

Mitch Andreini  
General Manager/Operator  
Canyon GID  
800 Peri Ranch Road  
Suite 103  
Sparks, NV 89434  
(775) 342-2850

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**

This notice is being sent to you by Canyon GID *Public Water System*. PWS ID# NV0005056.

Date prepared: 1/5/2024