



Information Concerning Your Primary and Secondary Standards Test

1. This test is also known as a General Mineral/Physical/Inorganic. The General Mineral and General Physical portion of this test constitutes the Secondary Standards. The General Inorganic portion of the test constitutes the Primary Standards.
2. Secondary Standards include compounds which affect the esthetics of drinking water such as taste and odor and do not necessarily pose a health threat. These compounds have limits that are considered consumer accepted limits and are listed in the table below.

<i>Constituents</i>	<i>Maximum Contaminant Levels/Units</i>
Aluminum	0.2 mg/L
Color	15 Units
Copper	1.0 mg/L
Corrosivity	Non-corrosive
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	0.5 mg/L
Iron	0.3 mg/L
Manganese	0.05 mg/L
Methyl- <i>tert</i> -butyl ether (MTBE)	0.005 mg/L
Odor—Threshold	3 Units
Silver	0.1 mg/L
Thiobencarb	0.001 mg/L
Turbidity	5 Units
Zinc	5.0 mg/L

Consumer Acceptance Contaminant Level Ranges” *Maximum Contaminant Level Ranges*

<i>Constituent, Units</i>	<i>Recommended</i>	<i>Upper</i>	<i>Short Term</i>
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L	500	1,000	1500
or			
Specific Conductance, μ S/cm	900	1600	2200
Chloride, mg/L	250	500	600
Sulfate, mg/L	250	500	600

This information is taken from the California Department of Public Health website at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov> and these particular constituents may or may not be part of your required list of analytes for testing. Please refer to your required list in your permit or paperwork given to you by SLO Environmental Health.



3. Primary Standards consist of contaminants that may cause adverse public health effects. EPA is required to establish National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for these contaminants.

The regulations include both mandatory levels ([Maximum Contaminant Levels](#), or MCLs) and nonenforceable health goals (Maximum Contaminant Level Goals, or MCLGs) for each included contaminant. Please see the table below for some of these identified contaminants which are common to the Inorganics portion of your test.

Contaminant	MCLG ¹ (mg/L) ²	MCL or TT ¹ (mg/L) ²	Sources of Contaminant in Drinking Water
Antimony	0.006	0.006	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic	07	0.010 as of 01/23/06	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, runoff from glass & electronics production wastes
Asbestos (fiber >10 micrometers)	7 million fibers per liter	7 MFL	Decay of asbestos cement in water mains; erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium	0.004	0.004	Discharge from metal

			refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium	0.005	0.005	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (total)	0.1	0.1	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	1.3	TT7; Action Level=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (as free cyanide)	0.2	0.2	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride	4.0	4.0	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories



Lead	zero	TT7; Action Level=0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Mercury (inorganic)	0.002	0.002	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and croplands
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen)	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	0.05	0.05	Discharge from petroleum refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Thallium	0.0005	0.002	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories



The information concerning Primary Standards was taken from the EPA website located at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants>. The above listed contaminants may or may not be required for your test. Please refer to your permit or your paperwork from SLO Environmental Health.

4. Laboratories are required by law to contact the client directly if there is an exceedence of acceptable limits for Primary Standards. Therefore you will always be notified in the form of a phone call or an email if one of our primary standards is above acceptable limits.

5. Laboratories are not required by law to inform you if there is an exceedence of recommended limits for Secondary Standards. Therefore, you may or may not be notified if one of your secondary standards is above recommended limits.

6. If you are using this test to help you make a decision concerning buying or selling a property or making a major change to a property DO NOT ASSUME that if the laboratory does not notify you of elevated levels that things are ideal for your plans. ALWAYS have a water quality professional look at your report first. We can provide you with a list of professionals should you decide to consult one of these.

7. Utilized the websites listed here for more information or consult with someone at SLO Environmental Health.

Thank you,

Amanda Smith, Owner
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