### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION MUY IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA DE BEBER. TRADUZCALO O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA BIEN.

 **The Authority of the Borough of Charleroi Has Levels of**

**Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Above Drinking Water Standards in the**

***Somerset Township Service Area***

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

The Authority of the Borough of Charleroi routinely monitors your drinking water for contaminants as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. This includes quarterly monitoring of Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) levels at four (4) pre-designated locations throughout our water distribution system.

Compliance for this monitoring at each location is achieved when the Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) for Total Trihalomethanes does not exceed 0.080 mg/L. This LRAA is an average based on results from the current quarter and the three previous quarters.

The results of the 2016 Second Quarter monitoring indicate that the LRAA for Total Trihalomethanes at the Carlton Restaurant sample site was 0.083 mg/L which exceeded

the LRAA compliance level of 0.080 mg/L. Although the 2016 Second Quarter Total Trihalomethane level at this location was 0.037 mg/L, the elevated levels in two of the previous quarters caused this sample location to remain out of compliance.

 **What are Trihalomethanes?**

Trihalomethanes are Disinfectant Bi-Products that are formed when the Chlorine used for the disinfection of drinking water reacts with the natural organics found in the Source water, in this case the Monongahela River. Because TTHM formation continues after initial Chlorination, locations at the outermost locations in the distribution system with increased water age are most susceptible to elevated TTHM levels.

**What Happened? What was done?**

The increase of TTHM levels can be attributed to the often increasing levels of Organic Compounds found in the source water throughout the year. Ongoing changes to the water treatment process, along with changes to the storage facilities throughout the distribution system have been made to help reduce the elevated TTHM levels.

**What does this mean?**

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

**What should I do?**

**You do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. TTHM levels in your water exceeding the standard over many years could increase the risk of cancer, liver, kidney or central nervous system disorders.

For more information, please contact: The Authority of the Borough of Charleroi

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*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 The Authority of the Borough of Charleroi.

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