

# Template: Press Release

Drinking Water Risk Communication Toolkit

DATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: [Name, Title, Phone, Email]

**[Utility Name] Addresses Concerns About [Contaminant] in Local Drinking Water**

[CITY, STATE]—Samples collected by the [utility name] recently showed the presence of [contaminant], a contaminant that at high levels has been linked to [health effects], said [first name, last name, title], spokesperson for the utility.

Tests conducted [date] at [location] showed the presence of [contaminant]. While no drinking water standards have been set by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for [chemical], the [utility name] has [insert action taken] to assure that all customers receive the highest water quality possible.

[Insert quote from city authority or utility spokesperson on the situation, specifically on what is being done or what customers should do.]

[Utility name] is working with [partners] to determine [source of contamination, appropriate next steps, or other immediate work to be done] and ways to prevent future contamination.

“Our most important priority is the health of our community. We are working to [action] and resolve the issue quickly,” said [name]. “We will continue to communicate with customers through [where can people go to get more information].”

[Contaminant] is not regulated through the US EPA and is commonly used as [identify use]. For more information on [contaminant], you can consult [web link to appropriate resource—MDH or EPA].

For more information contact [first name, last name, title] at [utility name], [phone number] or [email address]. Health questions about this chemical should be directed to [appropriate public health entity] at [phone number] or [email address].

Adapted from Risk Communication Strategy and Tools: Guidelines for Communicating About Drinking Water Contaminants; Water Research Foundation, US EPA, Drinking Water Inspectorate (UK). 2010.

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