UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604

DATE: June 19, 2018

SUBJECT: Results for Samples Taken at Your Home for bacteria, Nitrate, Nitrite, Coliform, Chloride, and Ammonia

TO: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Nekoosa, Wisconsin 54457

FROM: U.S. EPA Region 5

On May 3, 2018, EPA collected water samples from your backyard spigot and anlyzed them for bacteria (*E. coli*), nitrate, nitrite, chloride, and ammonia.

Your test results (attached and provided below) show that the nitrate results for your drinking water samples are at 29.1 milligrams per liter (mg/L), which is above EPA's Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 10 mg/L for nitrate in drinking water. Since the nitrate levels found in your well are above the MCL, EPA recommends that you take the following actions outlined in the attached June 15, 2018 press release from the Wood and Juneau County Health and Land and Water Resource Departments since your nitrate levels are above the MCL:

- Infants less than 6 months, pregnant women, and women who may become pregnant should immediately stop using the high nitrate water for drinking or preparing foods (infant formula, soup, rice).
- Everyone should avoid long-term consumption of water with high nitrate levels.
- It is okay to use the water for activities like showering and household chores.

High nitrate levels are a health risk particularly for children less than 6 months old. Women who are pregnant or may become pregnant should also pay attention to nitrate levels. To learn more about what you can do to protect yourself and your family from high levels of nitrate, see the attached April 2018 factsheet from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

None of the other contaminants that we analyzed were detected in your water with the exception of chloride, which was detected at 36.8 mg/L. There is no MCL for chloride, but there is a Secondary MCL of 250 mg/L. Secondary MCLs are non-mandatory water quality standards and EPA does not enforce them. They are established as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor.

If you have any technical questions regarding these results, please contact EPA's Cheryl Burdett at (312) 886-1463 or [HYPERLINK "mailto:burdett.cheryl@epa.gov"]. If you have any questions on health-related issues, you may contact Barb Theis of the Juneau County Health Department at (608) 847-9373 or [HYPERLINK "mailto:btheis@co.juneau.wi.us"].

In addition, since the Juneau County Health Department has already conducted nitrate sampling in the area and would like to compare your results to the results from samples that have already been collected, Ms. Theis would like a copy of your results. May you please contact her and let her know if you are willing to share your results with the Juneau County Health Department?

Attachments:

1. Laboratory Report with Final Analytical Results
2. June 15, 2018 Press Release from the Wood and Juneau County Health and Land and Water Resource Departments: "High Nitrate in Private Drinking Wells"
3. April 2018 Fact Sheet from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services: "Nitrate in Private Well Water"