

ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)  
PERIOD: JANUARY 1, 2021 TO DECEMBER 31, 2021  
**SC Water Utilities – CUC, Inc.**  
0750041

The annual Consumer Confidence Report for FY 2021 is enclosed. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day.

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA) provides our water, with its source being the Savannah River; the raw water is treated at the Chelsea Water Treatment Plant. The river water travels 18 miles via open canal to the water plant located in the Chelsea area. The Chelsea Water Treatment Plant provides up to 24 million gallons per day (mgd) to residences and businesses in northern and southern Beaufort County. In addition to BJWSA testing, Callawassie and Spring Island routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws.

For the year 2021, the average level of tritium in the Savannah River raw water was **235** pCi/L. Tritium is a regulated constituent, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set a maximum contamination level for its occurrence in water as 20,000 pCi/L. BJWSA's levels are less than **2%** of the EPA's drinking water standard.

South Carolina's Source Water Assessment Program, mandated by 1996 Amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, is aimed at protecting public drinking water supplies at the source – the rivers, lakes, and streams across South Carolina. As part of this program, a source water assessment of the Savannah River Basin has been completed. This assessment is part of a program to identify what and where pollution prevention efforts are necessary to ensure the future of safety of our community's drinking water and to implement those protective measures. The SC Department of Health and Environmental (DHEC) has compiled the assessments from all water utilities in the state into a Source Water Protection Program.

DHEC's assessment included consideration of eight categories of potential contaminants: volatile organic compounds, petroleum products, metals, nitrates, pesticides/herbicides, pathogens, radionuclides, and undetermined. The assessment identified and mapped sources that could potentially release these contaminants, such as gas stations, dry cleaners, agricultural areas, automobile repair shops, landfills, septic systems and manufacturers, businesses, and facilities where potential contaminants are used or stored. DHEC compiled an initial inventory of potential contaminants at 22 sources within the Savannah River basin. Zero sources had a high Susceptibility ranking. 17 had a moderate Susceptibility ranking and five had a low susceptibility ranking. The information in the Source Water Assessment Report will be the foundation of a local effort to improve protection of our drinking water sources.

The EPA announced that it has determined that PFAS data will be collected under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR 5) effort. UCMR 5 will include the six PFAS analytes collected in UCMR 3 as well as 23 other PFAS analytes. Data acquired from the 29 analytes will be used by EPA to better understand occurrence and prevalence of PFAS in the nation's drinking water (<https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-containment-monitoring-rule>).

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. These substances can include microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, should be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. The presence of constituents does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a potential health risk. More information about constituents and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer, undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological constituents are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Every year, BJWSA prepares and delivers Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR) to its customers, as mandated by {40CFR part 141 subpart O} of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The purpose of its report is to give you important information on your drinking water and how it meets drinking water standards. This report can be found at <https://www.bjwsa.org>.

**DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS:**

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** Maximum Containment Level Goal.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** Maximum Contamination Level

**ppm:** milligrams per liter or parts per million.

**ppb:** micrograms per liter or parts per billion.

**Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal.

**Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level.

**TT:** Treatment Technique

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

**ND:** Not Detected.

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

**AL:** Action Level

**Avg:** Regulatory compliance with some MCL's are based on running annual average or monthly samples

**Level 1 Assessment:** A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria has been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment:** A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why and E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions

**N/A:** not applicable

**mrem:** millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**Chelsea Water Treatment Plant (Savannah River Source)**

Substance	Date Tested	Typical Source	EPA MCL	EPA MCLG	Range of Removal	Level Found	Violation
Total Organic Carbons	2021	Naturally present in the environment	TT	N/A	42-61.7% removal (35%-50% is req.)	1.16-2.15	No
Substance	Date Tested	Typical Source	EPA MCL		EPA MCLG	Level Found	Violation
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	2021	Soil Runoff	TT=1 NTU		0	0.06 NTU	No
			TT=95% of samples <0.30 NTU			100 %	

<sup>1</sup>Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of the filtration system and disinfectants.

**Surface Water Purchased from Beaufort Jasper – Chemical Constituents**

Contaminant	Detected Level	Range of Detection	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Goal (MCLG)	Unit of measure	Violation Y/N	Year	Possible source
FLUORIDE	0.83 PPM	0.40-0.83	4	4	PPM	N	2021	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
NITRATE	0.25 PPM	ND-0.25	10	10	PPM	N	2021	Runoff from fertilized use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage erosion of natural deposits.
SODIUM (unregulated contaminant)	13 PPM	13-13 PPM	N/A	N/A	PPM	N	2021	Naturally occurring.

**Callawassie Utility Company (SC0750041)  
2021 Regulated Contaminants Detected**

Substance	Date Tested	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Of Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2021	1.3	1.3	0.067	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2021	0	15	0.51	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. CUC is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take in minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800\*-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Substance	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of levels detected	Units	Violation	Collection Date	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM	No goal for the total	80	54.00	30.3-85.83	PPB	N	2021	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5	No goal for the total	60	5.00	0-10.86	PPB	N	2021	By-product of drinking water disinfection
CHLORINE	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	0.300	0.2-0.3	PPM	N	2021	Water additive used to control microbes

We routinely monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. Lead and Copper monitoring was done in 2021. SC Water Utilities - CUC **did not** exceed the action level for lead or copper at the 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile. Therefore, we remain on a reduced triennial monitoring schedule. Our next sampling will take place between June 1, 2024 and September 30, 2024.

Please direct specific questions regarding SCWU's report to Marshall Bishop (843) 987-2727 or SC Water Utilities at 843-768-0641