**Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District**

**Hexavalent Chromium Information**

**October 5, 2016**

**Monitoring Data**

Pursuant to the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) has monitored the presence of Hexavalent Chromium (Chromium 6+) in its water supplies. The results ranged from 0.18-0.23 micrograms per liter (ug/l) or parts per billion. These results are significantly lower than the regulatory requirement of 10 ug/l, as defined by the maximum contaminant level, described below. Chromium is a naturally-occurring element in soil in California’s Coastal Range, and is generally present in low concentrations in rivers, lakes and groundwater.

See the attached Consumer Confidence Report for 2015 from HBMWD, which provides water quality monitoring data and regulatory requirements for a variety of compounds, including hexavalent chromium. This report is also available on HBMWD’s website at:

<http://www.hbmwd.com/consumer-confidence-report-2e99780>

**Maximum Contaminant Level**

California has established a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for hexavalent chromium of 10 ug/l. Public water systems (including HBMWD) are required to provide water supplies to their customers which do not exceed this regulatory level.

See the attached fact sheet from the State Water Resources Control Board (the agency charged with developing and enforcing MCLs) about hexavalent chromium. This fact sheet is also available at the following link:

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/documents/chromium6/chromium_fact_sheet_2015_final.pdf>

**Public Health Goal**

As part of the process of developing MCLs, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment develops public health goals (PHGs), which are non-mandatory advisory levels of de minimus risk that are usually based on animal toxicology studies. The State Water Resources Control Board uses PHGs, in conjunction with human exposure data, information about the presence of the compound in water, the treatability of the compound and other factors, to establish MCLs. The PHG for hexavalent chromium is 0.02 ug/l.