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Notice to PUC Water Customers

Conversion to Free Chlorine Disinfection – Status Update

This is a joint public update from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and Algoma Public Health (APH) to all consumers of municipal drinking water within the City of Sault Ste. Marie and Rankin Reserve. The PUC is changing the disinfection within the city's water distribution system by converting to free chlorine.

Conversion to free chlorine has been postponed to the week of October 24, 2011.

The city's drinking water will remain safe to consume throughout the conversion process.

Consumers may notice a change in taste and/or odour during the system flushing that is required to change over all the water in the pipes to free chlorine.

Consumers who are more sensitive to changes in the municipal water supply may prefer to store several containers of water in the refrigerator the night before the scheduled conversion to use for preparation of baby formula, juices and for drinking.

Consumers who find the taste or odour disagreeable should flush their house plumbing for approximately 5-10 minutes as required through the day. Should the problem persist for more than one day, please call PUC at 705-759-6522 Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 16:30 or 705-759-6555 at all other times.

PUC is working closely with Algoma Public Health and the local Ministry of Environment to plan and carry out this work. Regular ongoing monitoring of drinking water quality will continue throughout the process. Status updates will be issued each day to the media during the conversion activities and are posted on the PUC website (www.smpuc.com). See the PUC website for answers to "frequently asked questions" (FAQs).

If any problems or concerns regarding water safety are identified, the public will be notified.

For more information contact the following:

- For health related questions call Algoma Public Health at 705-759-5286
- For technical or water supply related questions call PUC Services at 705-759-6522