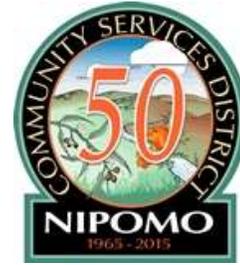


## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 31, 2015  
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### **Additional Information about the District Change in its Treatment Process to Use Chloramines Instead of Chlorine**

In response to recent articles regarding the District's change in disinfection method, Nipomo CSD wants to assure its customers that they will continue to have safe and reliable drinking water.

**Why we are making this change in the treatment process from chlorine to chloramine.** Supplemental Water arrived in Nipomo from the City of Santa Maria on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. This supply includes both groundwater and surface water from rivers and lakes. Santa Maria and public water supply systems throughout the USA and world that use surface water often use chloramine to disinfect their water because it is safer and is needed to meet water quality requirements. Because we are receiving water that has been disinfected by the City of Santa Maria with Chloramine, health standards require the District to use the same type of disinfection throughout our system.

**Your water will continue to be safe.** Chloramine is safe for public use and is a widely accepted disinfection practice for maintaining a healthy water supply. In the U.S., chloramine has been used by water utilities for about 90 years, and its use is closely regulated. More than one in five Americans uses drinking water treated with chloramine. Santa Maria has safely used chloramine for about a decade, and prominent cities like Philadelphia, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Tampa Bay, and Washington, D.C all use chloramine.

**Your Water Undergoes intensive water quality testing and monitoring around the clock.** Your water quality is overseen 24/7 by state certified water quality professionals. They test the water at each well and pipeline that we receive it from, within the pipelines as we distribute it, and even in some homes. They conduct thousands of tests: some hourly, and others daily, weekly, and yearly.

**Special populations need to take precautions.** Although it is safe for dialysis patients to drink water containing chlorine or chloramine, it is not safe to have it directly enter their bloodstream through the dialysis process. Individuals with kidney disease undergoing in-home dialysis treatment on artificial kidney machines should contact their healthcare professional. Additionally, chloramines, like chlorine, are toxic to fish and aquatic life. Before utilizing District water for pet fish or aquatic life, local pet or fish shops should be contacted to determine the best measures to remove chloramines.

**Nipomo's water supply is more reliable.** The Nipomo Supplemental Water Project is the largest and most important in the District's 50-year history and provides a supplemental source of water to the Nipomo area. Since the arrival of supplemental water, Nipomo's pumping of area groundwater is 56% lower than the five-year average. This is truly a monumental accomplishment for the District and this project will increase District water supply reliability for generations to come.

The District remains committed to providing its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future. For more information on the project and the change in disinfection, the public is encouraged to visit the District's website at [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) or contact the District at 929-1133 or [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov) .

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**Established in 1965 to meet the health and sanitation needs of the local community, Nipomo Community Services is pleased to provide a wide variety of services throughout its district including the provision of water, sewer, and waste management services as well as lighting and drainage in limited areas. The mission of Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.**